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SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL.

Summary of the Reports

FOR 1894

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH

FOR THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET.

REPORT.

1894.

To the Chairman and Members of the General Purposes
Committee of the Somerset County Council.

GENTLEMEN,—

I present herewith, as in previous years, the Tables and Summaries compiled from the Reports of the Medical Officers of Health for the Urban and Rural Sanitary Districts of the County of Somerset, for the year 1894.

The Tables are similar in form to those of previous years, and are eight in number : four relating to the Rural and four to the Urban Districts.

I must again call attention to certain errors which recur in the Reports from year to year, and render it impossible to accurately summarise the totals for the County. As this materially reduces the value of the Report, I think it would be well for your Committee to take care, if it be not already done, that a copy of this Report is each year brought *directly* under the notice of each Medical Officer of Health, when the slight discrepancies might easily be avoided.

Taking the Tables *seriatim* :—

Table I., for both Urban and Rural Districts, is the Local Government Board Table A, compiled from the District Tables appended to the Reports.

With regard to this Table, it has again been found impossible to total the columns satisfactorily for the County, as the sum of columns C and D does not always equal the total mortality under 5 years given in column 22.

The most common error seems to be a confusion between the deaths under 1 year, and the deaths under 5 years, which are sometimes treated as interchangeable. A little care in keeping distinct the deaths under 5 years from those over 5 years would remove this difficulty. In cases where the totals mentioned above do not agree, we have no means of ascertaining which of the two is correct. In seven Districts one or more inaccuracies of this kind are noted, and in two no totals are given.

Table II., for both Urban and Rural Districts, is the Local Government Board Table B, showing the new cases of sickness, compiled from the District Tables appended

to the Reports. In eight Districts the division between cases over and under 5 years does not appear to be indicated.

The omission of "age" on the Local Government Board Certificate is no doubt the cause of this, and the deficiency could be rectified when the case is visited. In sixteen cases this Table is incomplete (as by omission of columns [b] or [c], etc.), and in two cases the Table is not given at all.

Table III. shows as before for each District, both Urban and Rural, the number of births and deaths, the number of deaths from the seven principal Zymotic diseases, the number of deaths of Infants under 1 year, and the population of each District, as stated by the Medical Officer of Health, together with the Birth Rate, Death Rate, Zymotic Death Rate, and Infantile Rate deduced by him from these data. It will again be noticed that the rates on these figures, worked out independently, show considerable discrepancy, and the Zymotic Death Rate is in many cases either too high or too low, owing to the variable number of Zymotics included in the calculations.

In the returns for this year we have, upon working out the rates, found discrepancies to exist in the case of twenty-three Districts, and in six Districts one or more of the rates have been omitted. I have before called attention to the necessity for calculating the Zymotic Death Rate strictly upon the deaths from the *Seven Principal Zymotics* only, so as to allow of accurate comparison amongst Districts.

The principal Zymotics are according to the Registrar-General:—

Small-pox,
Measles,
Scarlet Fever,
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup),
Whooping Cough,
Fever, and
Diarrhœa.

An error in the Zymotic Rate has occasionally arisen by confusing the diseases scheduled under the Notification Act with the seven principal Zymotic diseases.

In working out the general death rate, it is not permissible to exclude the deaths of persons dying in public institutions, although they may have come thither from outside districts. Any excess of deaths under this head can be dealt with in the body of the Report, and special columns are provided for such deaths in the Local Government Board Table.

Table IV. shows certain particulars of interest relating to each District, arranged in Tabular form for convenience of reference.

It will be found upon examination that the figures given in this Table under the headings "Population," "Census, 1881," "Census, 1891," and "Acreage," vary somewhat from the figures given in previous years. The figures used in the Report this year have all been taken from the revised figures of the recently published 1891 Census.

ABSTRACTS.

**WATER SUPPLY, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL, SEWERAGE,
DRAINAGE, ETC.**

These matters have again in accordance with a request contained in a letter from your clerk, under date, 16th June, 1893, been dealt with in Tabular Form, so as to show "in what cases the requirements set out in the previous year's report or digest had not been attended to."

These Tables follow after page 5.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.

Particulars as to the prevalence of disease in each District are supplied in the Abstracts.

NOTIFICATION ACT.

The Act is now in force in sixteen out of the eighteen Urban Districts, and in nineteen out of the twenty-two Rural Districts. These figures are identical with those returned for 1893.

ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

In eight of the eighteen Urban Districts—the same number as last year—some Isolation accommodation is available, in one district it is under consideration, and in another a site seems to have been decided upon.

Six only of the Rural Districts, as in 1893, possess any such accommodation, and there appears to be little tendency amongst the districts to combine, under the provisions of the Isolation Hospitals Act, 1893, for the joint construction and use of Isolation Hospitals.

Your Council might usefully press the urgency of this question upon the Local Authorities, upon the lines indicated at some length in more than one of my previous Reports.

The Isolation Hospitals Act of 1893 is designed to promote the establishment of Isolation Hospitals, to be in readiness to deal with the early cases of an epidemic, the importance of which is becoming year by year more recognised.

With certain exceptions as to Boroughs, this Act enables County Councils to provide Isolation Hospitals, or to cause one to be provided in any district in their county, on application being made to them in manner provided by the Act, and on satisfactory proof being adduced that such hospital is required. The application may be made by any Urban or Rural Sanitary Authority; as regards any rural parish, by the Parish Council, or by twenty-five ratepayers. Without any such application being made to them, the County Council may, on their own initiative, direct an inquiry to be made by the County Medical Officer of Health, as to the necessity for such a hospital in any particular district, and upon his report may proceed as in the case of an application as above.

A Hospital District may consist of one or more local areas, as defined by the Act, and such areas would include adjacent districts which might conveniently be served by the establishment of a joint hospital, and the duties in connection with the establishment of such hospital are undertaken by a Hospital Committee, appointed by the County Council.

A County Council may contribute out of the County Rate towards the structural and establishment expenses of an Isolation Hospital established under the Act, and may borrow for purposes of the Act on the security of the County Rate.

This Act places wide and important powers in the hands of County Councils towards the safe-guarding of all parts of their District.

DISINFECTING APPARATUS.

Four disinfecting machines only appear still to be available in the Urban Districts, and three in the Rural Districts. It is impossible to deal effectually with any large amount of infected bedding or clothing without a suitable hot-air or steam-disinfecting apparatus. The first cost of such an apparatus is, of course, considerable, but by means of combination, as in the provision of isolation accommodation, this difficulty may be overcome.

ANNUAL REPORT PRINTED.

Nine of the eighteen Urban reports, and thirteen of the twenty-two Rural reports are this year printed or type-written—an increase of two over last year. This adds immensely to the clearness and ease of dealing with the facts and figures of a Report.

ACTION UNDER THE DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS ORDERS.

In thirteen of the eighteen Urban Districts there is record of systematic inspection and control of the milk supply, but in eleven only of the twenty-two Rural Districts does this appear to be carried out. The proper control of the conditions under which milk is procured and distributed is most essential, and inattention to this important point is quite inexcusable.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.

The Inspectors of Nuisances have furnished reports in twelve of the eighteen Urban Districts, and in three others a summary of the Inspector's work is furnished by the Medical Officer of Health.

Ten of the Inspectors in the Rural Districts have furnished reports, and the Medical Officer of Health has furnished a summary of the Inspector's work in six other cases. In three of the Urban, and in six of the Rural Districts no information is afforded.

As I have previously pointed out, a report by the Inspector of Nuisances, although not compulsory, should always accompany the Medical Officer of Health's annual report ;

and I have recommended for general adoption the concise form given in Whitelegge's "Hygiene"—Cassell & Co., 2nd Edition.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

The reports continue to show that considerable attention is paid to this important question, and the progress of improvement, though very gradual, appears to be well sustained.

The discrepancies and errors in figures and tables diminish from year to year, but it is remarkable that certain small errors continue to recur, and, as shown above, to interfere with the obtaining of accurate data for the county as a whole. The general attention paid to routine sanitary work, and in particular, to the control of communicable diseases, may be deemed satisfactory; but there is, and must continue to be, a lack of unity in the provision of such necessities as isolation accommodation and efficient means of disinfection, and also in regard to such necessary routine work as the control of the milk supply, until the whole of the county medical work is brought together under the supervision of one responsible Medical Officer of Health.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. S. DAVIES,


M.D., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health
for the City and County, and for the
Port of Bristol.

May, 1895.

TABULAR STATEMENT showing requirements noted in 1893 Reports remaining unattended to, or incomplete in 1894.

URBAN DISTRICTS.	WATER SUPPLY.		EXCREMENT DISPOSAL—SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, ETC.	
	1893.	1894.	1893.	1894.
CHARD	Water supply not accessible to all parts of town. The advice of an engineer sought to advise Council. Supplementary supply from Resurrection Spring polluted by pond water at Field Bars, apparently resulting in outbreak of Enteric Fever.	The Engineer's plan for general supply for whole town in abeyance owing to cost.	Isolation Hospital :—The Local Government Board advise the joint provision by Chard, Urban and Rural Sanitary Authorities of a joint Isolation Hospital. No action taken.	Isolation Hospital :—Provision of one still needed and advised.
FROME	1893. Samples from private wells uniformly bad—disuse of wells advised.	1894. Substitution of Town supply for polluted private wells still recommended.		
MIDSOMER NORTON . .			1893. The Board has been considering the Midsomer Norton and Clandown sewerage schemes. Welton Outlet :—Pollution occurs here to the Radstock stream. Isolation Hospital :—The need for one emphasised by occurrence of Small Pox.	1894. Clandown Sewerage works practically complete. The Welton sewage question still under consideration, and in process of settlement. Isolation Hospital :—“ A place decided upon.”
RADSTOCK			1893. The Medical Officer of Health still considers the Frome Hill tank too small, and its position by the roadside objectionable. The Old Pit Pond in a foul state in the summer, polluted by Clandown sewage.	1894. No note as to Frome Hill tank. Old Pit Pond nuisance probably obviated by works proceeding at Clandown.
STREET			1893. Medical Officer of Health advises the Board to undertake the periodical removal of pail closets.	1894. ?
WELLS			1893. Extension of Deanery sewer not yet taken in hand.	1894. Extension of Deanery sewer to be commenced forthwith.
YEOVIL			1892. The ultimate disposal and treatment of the town sewage is now under consideration. 1893. The treatment of the town sewage according to the principle adopted by the Town Council now demands attention.	1894. “ Still receiving due consideration and attention.”

Note.—In Table IV. will be found particulars as to Isolation Hospital accommodation and disinfecting apparatus.



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TABULAR STATEMENT showing requirements noted in 1893 Reports remaining unattended to, or incomplete in 1894.

RURAL DISTRICTS.	WATER SUPPLY.		EXCREMENT DISPOSAL—SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.	
AXBRIDGE		A Report, made by Dr. Thompson on behalf of the Local Government Board under date 4th February, 1895, has given particular emphasis to the need for immediate attention to the Lympham water supply, which is entirely and dangerously unsatisfactory.		
BATH	1893. Bathford :—Water supply from wells very bad, in spite of cleansing. Negotiations for supply from Bath mains in progress. Hinton Charterhouse :—Water supply not satisfactory—many wells found to be unfit for use; question being taken in hand. Wellow :—Nothing done to improve water supply, but scheme prepared by surveyor.	1894. Bathford :—Negotiations still in progress. Hinton Charterhouse :—Scheme for supply from Norton Barn spring sanctioned by Local Government Board. Wellow :—Scheme for supply by gravitation sanctioned by Local Government Board.	1893. Lower Monckton Combe :—Cottage drains need water for flushing. Freshford :—The small sewage tank is likely to result in nuisance. The adoption of Surveyor's scheme for whole parish recommended. Combe Down :—Extension of scavenging to Combe Down recommended.	1894. ? Freshford :—Sewerage scheme under consideration, pending sanction of Local Government Board. ?
BEDMINSTER (now Long Ashton)	1893. Claverham :—Sample of water from stream seriously injured by tannery.	1894. ?	1893. Totterdown :—Medical Officer of Health calls attention to bad condition of houses built before bye-laws came into force, rotten state of drains, defective trappings, no effective ventilation.	1894. ?
BRIDGWATER	1893. Dunwear :—All samples from Wells badly contaminated; nature of soil precludes purity of supply. Extension of corporation supply recommended.	1894. Dunwear :—Supply from Bridgwater advised. Medical Officer of Health wishes to see water supply of Bridgwater extended.		
CLUTTON	See Tabular Statement in 1893 Report.		See Tabular Statement in 1893 Report.	
KEYNSHAM			1893. Brislington, part near Bristol :—Proper sewers still required. Whitchurch :—Sewerage scheme not proceeded with. Keynsham :—Complete sewerage scheme not being proceeded with, and delayed by opposition of ratepayers.	1894. Brislington, part near Bristol :—Needs a properly constructed sewer. Whitchurch :—The question of disposal of sewage remains as in 1892. Keynsham :—No complete scheme as yet in hand; conditions unsatisfactory.
LANGPORT	1893. Somerton :—Necessity for a pure water supply again urged. Westport :—Necessity for pure water supply urged.	Somerton :—Scheme under consideration. Westport :—Scheme under consideration.	Somerton :—Sewage works on outskirts of town cause nuisance.	1894. ?
SHEPTON MALLET	1893. Holcombe, Stoke St. Michael and Ashwick :—Schemes for supply made no progress. Ditchat :—Scheme opposed by parochial representatives.	1894. Holcombe, Stoke St. Michael, and Ditchat :—These schemes have made no progress. Ashwick supply reported by Inspector as improved, but still requiring attention.	1893. The drainage of each parish will, it is hoped, soon be taken into consideration.	1894. No scheme taken in hand.
SHERBORNE	1893. Poyntington :—The ample water supply not available. Plan to secure this submitted in March.	1894. Poyntington :—Supply remains in same condition.	1893. Sewerage arrangement generally primitive; privy vaults seldom emptied; closets directly over streams or ditches. Pail system recommended. <i>Pollution of River Yeo</i> at Darkhole, by untreated Sherborne effluent; at Compton Mills, by sewage of Yeovil.	1894. The condition of things remains the same as last year. <i>Pollution of River</i> :—Condition remains as last year.
TAUNTON			1893. Cesspits often cause trouble for want of emptying or undue size. Movable tanks or ash closets strongly recommended.	1894. Adoption of Bye-Laws relating to cesspits urged.
WELLINGTON	1893. Milverton :—Scheme awaiting consent of one owner of land. Bradford :—Many wells contaminated. Provision of good supply urged.	1894. Milverton :—Local Government Board scheme not sanctioned. Bradford :—Nothing done as to supply; various schemes proposed and rejected.		
WELLS	1893. Westbury :—Supply under consideration.	1894. Westbury :—Supply under consideration.	1893. Westbury :—Drainage remains as in last Report, still requiring attention.	1894. Westbury :—Condition of drainage unaltered.
WILLITON (EAST)	1893. Stogumber :—Water supply bad, owing to proximity of cesspits and of churchyard.	1894. Stogumber :—Very badly supplied.	1893. Long Street Sewer :—Condition of ditch carrying Williton sewerage by workhouse wall stagnant and offensive. Monksilver :—Privies placed over stream.	1894. Long Street sewer :—Condition remains the same. Monksilver :—Condition remains the same.
WILLITON (WEST)			1893. Carhampton :—Drainage system still needed. Dunster :—Drainage defective. Luxborough and Washford :—Privies still discharge into stream. Roadwater and Winterscombe :—Drainage unsatisfactory. Porlock :—Drainage in Redless Field most offensive.	1894. Carhampton :—Same condition as last year. Dunster :—Nothing done. Luxborough and Washford :—Privies remain the same. Roadwater and Winterscombe :—Stream receives most of the filth of villages. Porlock :—Some improvement effected; no complete scheme.
WINCANTON	1893. Hail has no water supply.	1894. ?	1893. Bruton :—Main drain offensive owing to insufficient flushing.	1894. Bruton :—Condition remains the same.
YEOVIL	1893. Stoke-sub-Hamdon :—Insufficient supply.	1894. Stoke-sub-Hamdon :—Still requires water supply.	1893. Martock :—Brooks receive much sewage, and are foul. A proper system is required. Stoke-sub-Hamdon :—Proper system of sewerage required (emphasized by outbreak of typhoid). Circumstances	1894. Martock :—Condition remains the same. Stoke-sub-Hamdon :—Condition remains the same.

COUNTY OF SOMERSET.

ABSTRACTS OF RURAL REPORTS.

1894.

AXBRIDGE.

RURAL.

M.O.H., Dr. A. DE COURCY LYONS.

869 acres.

on, 24,956 (census 1891).

ON,

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
ATE . .	24·4 per 1000 living.	25·1.	25·6.	27·0.	24·2.
ATE . .	16·5 " "	16·3.	17·3.	19·5.	17·6.
RATE . .	0·52 " "	0·6.	0·56.	0·8.	0·1.
MORTALITY	111·5 per 1000 births.	89.	134·3.	144.	131.

PLY.—Lympsham, Tarnock, Rooksbridge, and Biddisham still without proper supply. At Lympsham some of the people have to send three miles for water. Good supply obtained from new well at Hardings Lane, Banwell. Wells cleaned out and repaired. 4 samples of water taken.

AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Inspector reports 37 foul privies and 29 bad drains repaired; 6 new privies built, and old ones re-

—Inspector reports nuisances from farmyards, animals and manure heaps with.

OF DISEASE.—Notifications, 197, viz.:—Smallpox, 2; Scarlet Fever, 149; Typhoid Fever, 2; Puerperal Fever, 1; Erysipelas, 22.

case of Smallpox imported in December, very mild type, vaccination marks on one other person in house, not revaccinated, suffered; rest of family at once vaccinated: no spread of infection. Scarlet Fever of mild type prevalent (149 cases) six deaths. Medical Officer refers to mildness of cases assisting spread as there is no hospital, and when left at home parents do not carry out isolation in cases. Schools at Congresbury, Banwell, and Shipham had to be closed on account of Scarlet Fever. Diphtheria was not epidemic in any part of district—21 cases, 2 deaths. One death from Membranous Croup. Two cases of Enteric Fever, reported.

DISEASES HOSPITAL.—None. Medical Officer says: "I have again to impress on your authority the necessity of an Hospital for Isolation of Infectious Diseases," and points out its usefulness in preventing spread of disease; he thinks a hospital would have prevented much of the Scarlet Fever which occurred this year. MEANS.—Mention of fumigation of 19 houses and 3 schools in Inspector's report. Special apparatus?

SHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—No mention.

HOUSES, BAKE-HOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—No mention.

OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Appended in tabular form. General nuisance work done. 5 cases of overcrowding abated.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—Inspector reports 4 houses “closed.”

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

Medical Officer has had no bad meat reported to him, nor received any complaint of offensive trade.

1894.

BATH.

RURAL.

AREA, 27,345 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. HARPER.

POPULATION, 23,352 (census 1891).

GEOLOGY,

OCCUPATION,

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . . .	31.13 per 1000 living.	29.7.	29.7.	30.1.	32.7.
DEATH RATE . . .	16.52 „ „	14.4.	14.0.	15.8.	16.6.
ZYMOTIC RATE . . .	3.55 „ „	1.6.	1.5.	1.4.	0.6.
INFANT MORTALITY	145 per 1000 births.	92.	107.	95.	100.

WATER SUPPLY.—76 new houses granted certificate of pure water supply; 74 old houses provided with pure water; 16 wells analysed, and 20 permanently closed. *Twerton*—Supply satisfactory. *Weston*—Bath City main now carried to Primrose Hill, and where possible owners will be forced to take that supply. *Batheaston*—Supply satisfactory. Bailbrook houses are now all supplied from Bath City mains, and the wells are disused. *Bathford*—Supply not good; local springs gauged with view to local supply, and negotiations carried on with Bath for a supply from City mains. The matter is under consideration. *Hinton Charterhouse*—Scheme for supply from Norton Barn Spring by pumping; storage, pipes and standpipes sanctioned by Local Government Board. *Wellow*—Scheme for supply by storage and distribution by gravitation and standpipes, sanctioned by Local Government Board. *Monckton Combe*—Public supply extended as was recommended for several years past. A new public tap was provided, and a good supply is now more reasonably accessible from the houses. *Lower Swainswick*—Impure wells abandoned, and supply from Bath City mains substituted; many wells permanently or temporarily closed.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—*Twerton*—Sewers kept in good order; extensions made from time to time as required. Sewage goes to river Avon; will have to be dealt with when Bath has taken its sewage out of river. At Sladebrook the new houses have pail closets and slop-pits, now satisfactory, but as houses increase new sewer to join Twerton sewers will be needed. *Weston*—All new houses properly drained, and connected to existing sewers. *Batheaston*—Sewage goes direct to Avon; when Bath sewage scheme is complete a connection will have to be made to Bath sewers, or the sewage will have to be purified. *Bathford*—Drainage good. Question of sewage disposal now under consideration, owing to letter from Rivers

Pollution Committee of Somerset County Council, calling attention to sewage disposal, and suggesting filter-beds for effluent. At present sewage is only strained, and effluent passes direct to river; sludge used on land. Medical Officer suggests this parish and Batheaston joining in Bath City scheme. *Wellow*—Some of the houses in village want drainage; advised that this be provided for. Nuisance caused by outfall sewer at Shoscombe abated by extending outfall sewer. *Freshford*—Sewerage scheme prepared; sewage was to be dealt with by International Process; Local Government Board refused to sanction till land was obtained for purifying the effluent: matter is under consideration. *Monckton Combe*—Sewage tanks cleansed as required.

SCAVENGING.—Refuse is removed by authority in Twerton parish; also in parish of Weston, but here only once a month for six months of year; advised that removal be fortnightly all the year round. Bath City Destructor erected in Weston parish, no nuisance anticipated therefrom.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notification Act not in force; number of infectious cases “not even approximately correct.” Medical Officer points out difficulty of preventing spread of infection or arresting an epidemic without notification. *Small-pox*—No case in district; one was admitted to the hospital from Bath City. *Enteric Fever*—5 cases at Shoscombe; affected houses were supplied by well found to be polluted by overflow from house drain, possibly containing typhoid poison. First case was that of a man who brought the disease from Durham two months before the other four cases arose. The excreta from these houses was used on the gardens. The well was closed for a time. There was one death. *Diphtheria*—Isolated cases occurred in Twerton, Batheaston, Bathampton and Swainswick; in no case was there spread beyond the first household, and only once in the household itself. 6 deaths. No special cause found in any case; inquiries made; disinfection carried out. *Scarlet Fever*—Not largely prevalent. 28 cases sent to hospital, 17 treated at home. 2 deaths. *Measles*—Very prevalent in most parishes, especially in second quarter, when 40, out of the 43, deaths from this disease were registered. Schools at Weston, Combe Down, Wellow, Swainswick, Dunkerton, Freshford and Hinton Charterhouse had to be closed on account of measles. *Whooping Cough*—Prevalent in Weston, Twerton, and Combe Down; caused 19 deaths.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—Bath Statutory Hospital available. 166 cases admitted, of which 33 belonged to the Bath Rural District, viz.: Scarlet Fever, 28; Diphtheria, 5.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No mention of apparatus. Houses disinfected, 36.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—24 inspected. Notices for whitewashing served. 4 new registers granted.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKE-HOUSES.—Inspected. Bake-houses whitewashed, 34; slaughter-houses whitewashed, 16.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Tabular statement in Medical Officer's Report. Defective drains remedied, 125; defective privies and closets amended, 71; cess-pools cleansed, 28; closed, 8; old houses connected to sewers, 23; flushes provided to old closets, 16; nuisances from other causes, 48; plans for new houses approved, 253; rejected, 11.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—4 houses closed as unfit for habitation. In erecting the Destructor at Weston the Bath Corporation pulled down some 20 houses, all of which were dilapidated and insanitary, and 13 of which had been previously closed. "The clearance of this area is no doubt a great sanitary improvement."

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

1894.

BEAMINSTER.

RURAL.

AREA, 54,638 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. J. S. WEBB.

POPULATION, 10,366 (census 1891).

GEOLOGY,

OCCUPATION,

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . . .	26·6 per 1000 living.	24·6.	26·7.	29·7.	22·5.
DEATH RATE . . .	15·7 „ „	13·0.	23·3.	17·1.	18·7.
ZYMOTIC RATE . . .	0·77 „ „	0·28.	0·4.	0·7.	0·9.
INFANT MORTALITY. .	105·1 per 1000 births.	109.	123.	97.	69.

WATER SUPPLY.—Complaint made of Hogshill water supply;—"This I think must stand in abeyance until some more extended measure is decided on." Foul wells dealt with, 11; water certificates given, 4.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—34 defective closets and 37 defective drains attended to.

SCAVENGING.—No mention.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—NOTIFICATIONS, 15, viz.:—Scarlet Fever, 2; Puerperal Fever, 1; Erysipelas, 11. Returns of District Medical Officers show 33 cases of Whooping Cough, with 2 and 3 deaths respectively; also 3 cases of Chickenpox, and 15 of Influenza. Diarrhœa caused 3 deaths. Increased death rate attributed to increase of deaths from Lung and Heart diseases.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES' HOSPITAL.—Meerhay Cottage, Beaminster.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No mention.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—No mention.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKE-HOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—No mention.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Included in Medical Officer's Report: Drain nuisances, etc., 71; manure heaps removed, 11; pig-houses and animals kept in unfit state, 9; overcrowding cases, 2; foul wells, 11.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—Houses reported unfit for habitation, 7.

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

“The nuisance at Hams River still continues.” Cheese stored at Crewkerne Railway Station caused nuisance and was destroyed.

		Phthisis.	Lung Disease.	Heart Disease.
ANNUAL RATES PER 1000 LIVING.—	1894.	·7	3·5	2·6
	1893.	·4	2·3	1·5
	1892.	1·7	7·6	2·3

1894. BEDMINSTER (now LONG ASHTON).

RURAL.

AREA, 50,664 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. G. ADAMS.

POPULATION, 25,950 (estimated to middle 1894).

GEOLOGY: *Vide* 1892 Summary, and 1894 Medical Officer's Report.

OCCUPATION.—Iron ore and ochre mines at Winford; coal mines at Bedminster and Long Ashton; agricultural, in villages, seafaring, at Pill; Totterdown is residential.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . . .	26·16 per 1000 living.	28·1.	28·4.	31·7.	27·7.
DEATH RATE . . .	15·72 „ „	14·96.	16·2.	17·9.	16·0.
ZYMOTIC RATE . . .	1·34 „ „	1·67.	1·4.	1·5.	0·7.
INFANT MORTALITY .	110·45 per 1000 births.	100·4.	126·9.	104.	120.

WATER SUPPLY.—Many villages supplied by Bristol or Portishead Water Companies. Upper part of Nailsea supplied with spring water; lower part depends on shallow surface wells, generally not giving good water. Some wells closed or cleansed, or surrounding soil has been replaced by concrete or puddled clay. Samples of water analysed, and cases dealt with as required.

SEWERAGE, DRAINAGE, AND EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—73 closets and cesspools repaired or built.

SCAVENGING.—No mention.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—NOTIFICATIONS, 148, viz.:—Scarlet Fever, 94; Diphtheria and Membranous Croup, 18; Smallpox, 11; Septicæmia, 1; Puerperal Fever, 1; Erysipelas, 12; Enteric Fever, 11. Zymotic deaths, 35, viz.:—Smallpox, 5; Measles, 7; Scarlet Fever, 3; Diphtheria and Membranous Croup, 9; Whooping Cough, 8; Fever, 3. Principal epidemic was Scarlet Fever; Christ Church Schools at Nailsea closed on account of this disease; an outbreak at Workhouse Schools limited to 6 cases by prompt isolation. Five Smallpox cases were in Bedminster, and all removed to Hospital; the other five were in a village; disease introduced from Bristol, and did not spread beyond the one household. The five Smallpox deaths were Bristol cases at Novers Hospital, and none had been vaccinated since infancy. In the village outbreak the first case had one faint mark, the second, none (a severe case), the others, two fair marks; “a second vaccination at 12 years of age would probably have protected all these persons.” Eleven cases of Enteric Fever were scattered over the district, had no connection, nor was there any second case in any house; 4 cases were imported; in the others there was always neglect of drains, and dirty condition of houses. Four cases of Diphtheria at Bedminster; 5 at Pill; 2 at Abbots Leigh; 2 at Ashton; and one each at Portbury, Winford, Dundry, Barrow Gurney, and Cleeve. Failand School closed for Whooping Cough.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES’ HOSPITAL.—Hospital at Novers Hill used for Smallpox by arrangement with Bristol Sanitary Authority. There is also an Isolation Hospital in the Workhouse field.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—Medical Officer fears a steam disinfecter, portable or fixed, would be of little use in this hilly district, measuring 15 by 20 miles. Rooms disinfected, clothes boiled or sulphured, walls, etc., cleansed. There is a disinfecting chamber at Workhouse for cases among the inmates.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—Dairies visited; found in good order.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKE-HOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—Unwholesome slaughter-houses suppressed in a few instances.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES’ REPORT.—Appended. 127 houses inspected, and necessary alterations and improvements carried out. Medical Officer reports systematic inspection of district; overcrowding attended to.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—Dilapidated houses inspected and reported on; action has been, or will shortly be, taken.

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

Medical Officer sets out the precautions that should be taken to prevent the spread of Phthisis, and mentions that persons arriving from Cholera-infected or suspected ports have been kept under observation.

1894.

BRIDGWATER.*RURAL.*

AREA, 87,758 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. F. J. C. PARSONS.

POPULATION, 20,837 (census 1891).

GEOLOGY,

OCCUPATION,

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . .	26·4 per 1000 living.	24·8.	27·4.	27·9.	24·2.
DEATH RATE . .	13·5 „ „	15·7.	17·5.	15·4.	14·4.
ZYMOTIC RATE . .	0·3 „ „	1·0.	2·2.	2·7.	0·2.
INFANT MORTALITY	91·0 per 1000 births.	96·7.	108·0.	80·8.	78·7.

WATER SUPPLY.—Medical Officer wishes to see the Water Supply of Bridgwater extended. Inspector reports 11 samples of water taken for analysis, 9 were impure; these wells were cleansed and protected. These samples were all from Somerset Bridge and Dunwear, and nature of soil precludes purity of water. Supply from Bridgwater Water Works advised.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Inspector reports a new section of 90 ft. stone sewer drain laid at Othery. A new 12 inch pipe sewer with manholes and settling tank made at Coultings Corner (parish of Fiddington). A new 9 inch pipe sewer with 6 inch branch drains, manholes, and settling tank constructed at Dunball (parish of Chilton Trinity). The main sewer drains at Othery, North Petherton, and Cannington cleaned, manholes built, and partly piped.

Drains cleansed, repaired, or trapped, 73; privies cleansed and repaired, 38; privies without cesspits dealt with, 10; proper pans to closets, 6. Medical Officer refers to the advantage of the sewer works carried out.

SCAVENGING.—No mention.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notification Act assisted greatly in checking disease. Notifications, 64, viz.: Scarlet Fever, 33; Diphtheria, 15; Typhoid Fever, 2; Puerperal Fever, 1; Erysipelas, 13. Diphtheria caused 2 deaths at Westonzoyland (imported from near London) and 2 at Puriton. One death from Typhoid at Combwich (imported) and one at Stawell. One death from Puerperal Fever at North Petherton. “Fever” caused 2 deaths—one at North Petherton, one at Puriton.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—?

DISINFECTION MEANS.—? Disinfectants and cleansing with lime used in infectious cases.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—70 Cowkeepers, Dairymen, and Purveyors registered; premises inspected and found very satisfactory.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKE-HOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES’ REPORT.—Appended. 166 notices served. Many minor nuisances abated. Many details as to drainage and sewerage and water given above.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—Medical Officer reports house-to-house inspection reveals “healthier tone” around poorer class dwellings. One cottage unfit for habitation; notice served. Notices served for three dangerous buildings.

BYE-LAWS.—For new buildings as in 1892. Prove of great advantage; many new houses erected during year.

1894.

CHARD.*RURAL.*

M.O.H., Dr. E. STEPHENS.

AREA, 61,258 acres (area has since been diminished, 1892).

POPULATION, 22,220 (census 1891), 21,000 (estimated to middle 1894).

METEOROLOGY.—Rainfall for year 44 inches; *i.e.*, 12 inches above the average of past 10 years.

OCCUPATION.—

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . .	26·0 per 1000 living.	30·0.	29·0.	26·6.	27·0.
DEATH RATE . .	15·5 „ „	13·6.	18·6.	18·0.	17·0.
ZYMOTIC RATE .	0·52 „ „	0·28.	0·8.	0·8.	1·7.
INFANT MORTALITY	102·5 per 1000 births.	82·5.	105·2.	102.	125.

WATER SUPPLY.—Considerable number of samples of well waters tested; where found necessary, the wells were ordered to be cleaned out and surrounding soil made good, in order to, if possible, prevent future contamination. Town of Crewkerne stated to have unlimited supply of pure water.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Town of Crewkerne stated to be well drained. The Inspectors report 58 defective drains dealt with; 56 choked closets and 12 overflowing cesspits remedied.

SCAVENGING.—Apparently not provided for. Medical Officer advises burning of animal and vegetable refuse, and immediate burial of bodies of dogs, cats, etc.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notifications: Smallpox, 1; Scarlatina, 101; Diphtheria, 6; Membranous Croup, 1; Enteric Fever, 2; Puerperal Fever, 1; Erysipelas, 16. Total, 128.

Measles has been prevalent through the year; the Medical Officer wishes measles included among the notifiable diseases. To prevent spread several schools were recommended to be closed for a time.

Epidemic of Scarlet Fever in village of Combe St. Nicholas due to children suffering from mild attacks mixing with healthy. The parents did not or would not believe anything was the matter with them, and did not notify. Some parents in adjoining parish, after being warned, exposed their children while suffering; they were summoned and fined. One case of Smallpox, origin untraced, occurred in Crewkerne town; immediate special action taken; result, no spread. Diphtheria arose in parish of Yarcombe; 5 cases, no death. Water supplies tested, found whole-

some. The drains of premises affected were badly constructed and were remedied. The Medical Officer believes sewer gas the commonest cause of Diphtheria. Scarlatina caused 2 deaths; Membranous Croup, 1; Enteric Fever, 1; Measles, 2; Whooping Cough, 5.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—None. “In order to reap the fullest benefit to be derived from the Infectious Disease Notification Act, 1889, a special hospital should be provided for the immediate reception of the case notified.”

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No special apparatus. Provision of disinfecting machine advised, as also of a spraying machine for corrosive sublimate to disinfect rooms.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—Regularly inspected, and orders to whitewash, etc., given as required.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKE-HOUSES.—Inspected regularly, and faulty conditions dealt with.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Appended. General nuisance work recorded. 357 various nuisances dealt with.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.—Dwellings throughout district generally reported satisfactory; some cottages are old, but not necessarily unfit for habitation.

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.—Such as come under this Act visited by Inspectors, and reports made where found necessary.

1894.

CLUTTON.

RURAL.

AREA, 42,927 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. WHICHER.

POPULATION, 16,413 (census 1891).

GEOLOGY,

OCCUPATION,

	1894.		1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE	26·5	per 1000 living.	31·3.	27·2.	29·8.	25·9.
DEATH RATE	14·3	” ”	16·7.	17·5.	16·9.	15·1.
ZYMOTIC RATE	2·1	” ”	1·6.	0·9.	0·7.	0·6.
INFANT MORTALITY	91·7	per 1000 births.	75·7.	97·7.	108.	108.

WATER SUPPLY.—Four samples analysed: 3 pure, 1 impure.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Medical Officer directs Council's attention to the state of the Paulton Sewer at Gooseforde Bridge where it passes under the road in a culvert; the sewer empties into a pond on the Paulton side of the culvert: this pond in dry weather is a dangerous nuisance. Medical Officer suggests covering in the sewer on either side of the culvert for at least 60 feet.

SCAVENGING.—No mention.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notifications, 26, viz:—Scarlatina, 12; Diphtheria, 2; Enteric Fever, 2; Continued Fever, 1; Erysipelas, 10.

One Diphtheria case died: the Medical Officer says of the other, "notified as Scarlatina without rash,—? Diphtheria." Six cases of Scarlatina occurred in adjoining houses in Stanton Drew in December, probably imported from Bristol by a desquamating child. Five cases of Scarlatina in Temple Cloud in 3 houses: no spread. One case of Enteric Fever imported from Wells: the source of infection in the other not discovered. Measles prevalent in Stanton Drew and whole district, necessitating closure of schools at Publow and Chelwood. Whooping Cough also epidemic.

Measles caused 6 deaths, Diphtheria 1, Diarrhœa 1.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—None. Medical Officer suggests procuring for the purpose either one house in a central isolated position, or two isolated houses, one at either end of district but near the populous parishes.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No mention.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—No mention.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKE-HOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—No mention.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—None.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—No mention.

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

N.B.—This Report refers only to last quarter of the year: Medical Officer appointed in last quarter.

1894.

DULVERTON.

RURAL.

AREA, 59,627 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. E. SLADE KING.

POPULATION, 4,988 (census 1891).

GEOLOGY.—Shale.

OCCUPATION.—Agricultural.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . . .	26·4 per 1000 living.	27·8.	20·04.	28·6.	23·1.
DEATH RATE . . .	13·2 " "	16·03.	17·2.	16·6.	17·6.
ZYMOTIC RATE . . .	0·4 " "	1·8.	0·4.	2·0.	1·4.
INFANT MORTALITY .	60·6 per 1000 births.	107·9.	90·0.	76·9.	134·9.

WATER SUPPLY.—Public works of supply well maintained and in good order. Dulverton Town service reservoir cleaned out, and main scoured and flushed. Nine samples from various parts of district analysed by Medical Officer: 7 good, 2 polluted with sewage; these latter dealt with as necessary.

Rainfall about 8 inches over average, but fairly even in distribution.

A larger storage tank for Dulverton Town is advised.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Dulverton Town sewers flushed from time to time, and settling tanks inspected; all the works maintained in good order. Exford sewerage works in good order.

The making Dulverton Town stream into a culvert and the diversion of some sewage which reaches the river Barle advised.

SCAVENGING.—All town refuse properly removed in Dulverton Town; scavenging carried out regularly twice a week.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notifications, 7, viz:—Scarlet Fever, 4; Enteric Fever, 1; Puerperal Fever, 1; Erysipelas, 1. Notification Act works smoothly and usefully.

Whooping Cough and Measles, attacks numerous, type mild; one death from each Scarlet fever was limited to two houses; 4 cases, no death. One case of Enteric Fever in Dulverton Town, cause not discoverable.

Influenza chiefly confined to Parishes of Kingsbrompton, Upton, Winsford; 3 deaths over 65 years.

Diarrhœa “again almost absent.” No death from teething or convulsions, arguing that “the infant population must be well cared for by the mothers.”

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—None.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—“Disinfection well carried out by the Inspector of Nuisances.”

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—Registered, inspected, and regulated. One dairy with bad water supply, supposed to have spread Enteric Fever, is closed. Several faulty conditions of these premises noted as dealt with.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKE-HOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—Bake-houses inspected and limewashed; a bake-house complained of in 1893 Report now satisfactory. Slaughter-houses clean and in fair structural condition. One house with beds for 2 men, and 2 women registered as Common Lodging-house in Rosemary Lane, Dulverton; it is clean and well conducted.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Not appended. Medical Officer reports Inspector's work well done, and that he has reported in writing; he has inspected all the parishes, the Bake-houses, Slaughter-houses, Dairies, etc.; looked after all structural works of water supply and sewerage; accompanied Medical Officer in all inspections, and served 26 notices.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.—Up to March, 1894, 57 houses reported by Medical Officer and 47 structural alterations made in consequence. Since then 2 cottages in Dulverton have been closed, and Castle Cottages much improved. In country parishes, 71 cottages have been reported and 24 representations made to the District Council. “Structural condition of cottages improves, but leaseholds are, as usual, difficult to deal with.”

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

Medical Officer reports personal inspection of whole district and all Public Elementary Schools, visits to all notified cases, and necessary precautions taken; reported to authority at each meeting, etc. “The entire district is in very fair condition.”

1894.

FROME.

RURAL.

M.O.H., Dr. A. W. DALBY.

AREA, 52,021 acres.

POPULATION, 13,895 (estimated to 1894).

GEOLOGY,

OCCUPATION.—Agricultural and mining.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . . .	21·4 per 1000 living.	26·8.	28·9.	30·0.	26·7.
DEATH RATE . . .	12·8 „ „	13·1.	16·1.	12·8.	11·3.
ZYMOTIC RATE . . .	0·9 „ „	1·3.	0·8.	0·7.	1·0.
INFANT MORTALITY .	77·1 per 1000 births.	73·7.	97·5.	77·5.	74·5.

WATER SUPPLY.—Numerous samples examined and reported on, and steps taken to remedy defects. Supply to Rodden parish now completed; supply of premises outside parish contemplated. Wanstrow supply much improved by a Storage Tank at spring-head, holding 1,500 gallons. The Nunney system works satisfactorily; extension made to Nunney Court; excessive waste checked. Scheme for supply of villages of Coleford and Highbury nearly completed; tanks made and 4 miles of main laid and tested. Leakage in main at Leigh-on-Mendip repaired, and this supply, with those of Hemington, Buckland Dinham, and Vobster, are in good order.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Improvements in Beckington drainage reported. Outfall sewer at Vernall's Lane extended and improved. No further complaint of sewage tanks at Nunney. Inspector reports drainage throughout No. 1 District in very satisfactory condition. A few drainage and privy defects dealt with in No. 2 District.

SCAVENGING.—

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notifications, 49, viz:—Smallpox, 2; Scarlet Fever, 8; Diphtheria, 2; Enteric Fever, 2; Erysipelas, 34; Continued Fever, 1.

The 2 Smallpox cases were in one house at Leigh-on-Mendip; were isolated at home; precautions taken prevented further spread. Scarlet Fever “wonderfully scarce;” only 8 cases as against 154 in 1893. One death due to Diphtheria: 2 cases. Measles fairly prevalent in summer, caused 6 deaths; schools at Witham Friary, Norton-St.-Philip, and Road, closed on account of measles.

Notification Act reported as “most useful;” few cases now escape notice.

Inspector of District 2 reports one case of Anthrax, but does not state whether human or animal.

Deaths from Zymotics:—Diphtheria, 1; Measles, 6; Whooping Cough, 5; Diarrhœa, 1.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—None in district. Inspector reports no suitable premises yet discovered.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No machine. Inspectors report disinfectants supplied and fumigation carried out under Medical Officer. The articles infected with Small-pox were burned.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—Inspected and reported on when necessary: generally found satisfactory. Improved water supply, since opening of Rodden system, noted.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKE-HOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—No mention.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Two Inspectors. Both append Reports from which many details as to water supply and sewerage are set out above. District No. 1: fumigation carried out, dairies, etc., inspected; no case of overcrowding; inspection and action recorded. District No. 2: general and special inspection, and nuisance work recorded; one case only of overcrowding.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.—Very few complaints, none serious. Several excellent new cottages inspected and certified as fit for habitation.

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

1894.

KEYNSHAM.

RURAL.

M.O.H., Dr. J. C. HEAVEN.

AREA, 20,447 acres. (Note.—The Keynsham Rural District of last Report is now divided into the Rural Districts of Keynsham and Warmley.)

POPULATION, 7,377 (estimated to middle of 1894).

CONFIGURATION: GEOLOGY.—Keynsham District generally is drained by the Avon, and its tributaries, the Chew and the Brislington Brook. From the Avon valley the ground rises pretty rapidly on either side, and the surface is generally fairly high, undulating or hilly, allowing of fairly rapid drainage of storm water; but certain low-lying parts near the Avon, such as Keynsham Hams, are liable to flooding. Flooding also occurs at times along the valley of the Chew, which affects Keynsham Town. The Brislington Brook, when in flood, also invades some of the houses.

A short sketch of the Geology is given, as bearing on the retention of moisture in the soil in relation to damp and health; on the kind of water yielded by the ground, and on the liability to drain, or cesspool soakage or pollution. The formations observed are Red Marl, Penarth Beds, Lower Lias (Clay and Limestone), on which are Keynsham Town and the villages of Whitchurch, Priston, Stanton Prior, Marksbury, Burnett, Saltford, Newton, and Kelston: Coal Measures, on which are Brislington and Compton Dando: Alluvium and Bath Oolite. (For fuller particulars consult original Report.)

CHARACTER OF DISTRICT: OCCUPATION.—District contains 14 parishes; extends from city of Bristol to outskirts of Bath. Building extension rapid in Brislington and Keynsham, which are now practically urban in character: building also in progress at Saltford village, which is likely to grow now it has a public water supply.

Brislington and Keynsham contain a number of residents whose business lies in Bristol, and there are brass mills, logwood mills, gas works, and a soap and shoe factory at Keynsham; another brass mill and some varnish works at Saltford; brick works at Brislington, and a large laundry in Northstoke parish. The rest of the district consists of small, scattered villages, almost entirely agricultural.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . . .	28·73 per 1000 living.	28·30	26·91	28·11	25·21
DEATH RATE . . .	11·52 " "	16·19	16·39	17·82	18·02
ZYMOTIC RATE . .	0·27 " "	0·95	0·82	0·82	0·81
INFANT MORTALITY	70·75 per 1000 births.	91·34	71·06	97·56	112·9

WATER SUPPLY.—New houses supplied with Company's water, 9; old houses supplied with Company's water, 70; wells closed, 7; samples analysed, 29, of which 5 were good, 2 contaminated with vegetable matter or surface water, and 22 contaminated with sewage. Steps taken to provide Company's water or secure cleansing of wells; proceedings taken against one owner.

Saltford. The West Gloucester Water Company have carried their mains to this village, and have thus settled the difficulty of a pure water supply, in hand since 1889. The new supply is appreciated, and supplied to many houses.

The public supplies of Corston, Priston, and Whitchurch continue satisfactory.

The West Gloucester Company's water main extended also from Saltford to the lower end of Corston village.

The scheme devised in 1893 for the supply of Swineford hamlet by a piped supply from a pure spring, with storage reservoir and standpipes, approved at a cost of £220 by the Local Government Board, and now in progress.

Generally, much has been done during past 6 years to improve water supply, by analysis, replacement of impure supplies, and other measures.

Supplies now stand thus:—

Brislington village	} good.	Bristol W. W. Co.
Part of Whitchurch village		
Keynsham town, Saltford village	} good.	West Gloucester W.W. Co.
Part of Corston village		
Parts of Corston village, Priston village, and Burnett	} good.	Spring water piped to taps or standpipes.

The other villages depend solely, as do the above villages in part, on local wells of variable quality.

SEWERAGE AND EXCREMENT DISPOSAL:—

Brislington. Modern sewers, good gradients, ventilation and flushing, house drains properly connected and disconnected; serves nearly all the village. Outfall into tidal Avon. During the year about 500 yards of piped sewer, with manholes, etc., laid down on new Brislington estates, joining village outfall. Houses rapidly building on Bristol road need a properly constructed sewer to which they can connect.

Saltford. A single piped sewer runs from top of village down main street, outfall to river Avon. Ventilated only by shaft at head, flushed only by road water at upper end. No branches exist, so it is inaccessible to many houses.

Keynsham has one or two lengths of pipe sewer (*a*) from church, down Bristol road, outfall into tributary stream of Avon; (*b*) from Dapp's Hill estate houses, outfall into Chew, tributary of Avon, recently relaid by Sanitary Authority; (*c*) short length near "Lamb and Lark Inn," outfall into Chew. No provision for ventilation or flushing in any of these.

The only sewers in use in other parts are old highway "sewers," designed for storm water, unsuitable for sewage, and tending to produce dangerous nuisance from leakage, well pollution, and deposit and decomposition of contents.

House Drainage. Though considerable improvement has been secured, there are still an enormous number of old stone drains in existence untrapped or inefficiently trapped. Often houses have no drain, and slops are thrown over ground surface. Slopwater pits, where they exist, are unsatisfactory, admitting of leakage, and often close to wells.

Cesspits form the most usual method of excrement disposal, seldom watertight, and often ventilated only through open privy or drain, often untrapped, leading to them. In one or two parts (*e.g.* Corston village) many cesspits have been replaced by a form of dry, pail closet, and similar improvement has been effected where possible in other parts of the district. The general adoption of pail closets advised in rural parts of the district. (General advice as to village drainage, and excrement and slop disposal—reference given to Annual Report for 1890, pp. 4–6.)

Cesspool nuisances at Keynsham. The particulars of three instances of serious cesspool nuisances occurring at Keynsham are given in detail, pp. 12–16, by which "the necessity of a sewerage system for the town of Keynsham (is) once more emphasized." The Medical Officer of Health strongly urges that the only effectual remedy is to carry out a complete scheme of sewerage for the whole town, and states the provision of sewers to be "a matter of importance and urgency. Sewers must, sooner or later, be made, and delay can be productive of no good, but may, on the other hand, be fraught with grave danger to the health of the town." The blocking of the highway drain in the main street necessitated extensive repairs, and demonstrated it was in no wise self-cleansing, and unfit for a sewer.

Whitchurch. The question of the disposal of sewage remains as in 1892.

SCAVENGING.—Refuse removal is left to householders. Collections causing nuisance are dealt with as they arise.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE (NOTIFICATION).—Cases notified: Smallpox, 4 (one not smallpox; 2 in Warmley); Scarlet Fever, 12; Diphtheria, 1; Membranous Croup, 0; Enteric Fever, 8; Erysipelas, 5. Total, 30.

Smallpox. Five cases occurred during the year; the origin of two was obscure; the third was apparently introduced from Bristol, and the two last from Stapleton. The hospital was of immense value, and enabled all these introductions to be dealt with readily and effectually. By prompt removal to hospital, disinfection and vaccination or revaccination of all exposed persons, the initial cases were in every instance prevented from spreading. The Medical Officer of Health re-states the need for universal, thorough, and successful vaccination and revaccination, in order to prevent smallpox; failing this, hospital accommodation must be added to the other means of disinfection, and vaccination or revaccination of exposed, unprotected persons.

Scarlet fever, which was epidemic in 1892–3, was very little prevalent in 1894. No cases occurred in the Newton sub-district. Case was very mild, no death occurred.

Diphtheria. One case only. No Membranous Croup.

Enteric Fever. All of the 8 cases notified occurred in Keynsham Town—no death occurred. Two cases were imported. A group of three cases arose in connection with a contaminated well, already under notice. Five of the cases showed common school attendance, and special attention was paid to the disinfection of the school privies. The necessity of care in flushing and disinfection of trough closets is emphasized.

Measles. An outbreak in August necessitated the closing of Compton Dando School. No death occurred.

Whooping Cough. No death occurred and no cases came under notice, although it was very prevalent in the adjacent Warmley district. The necessity for care against cold during convalescence is dwelt upon.

Puerperal Fever. No cases occurred.

Erysipelas. Only five cases occurred, compared with seven and ten in the two preceding years.

Choleraic Diarrhœa. On October 1st a severe case occurred at Keynsham, possibly due to error in diet. The man recovered, and no further cases occurred.

Influenza. No deaths occurred in the Somerset part of the district.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—The hospital was fully furnished up to twelve beds in January, and, as stated above, was of great service during the year.

AMBULANCE.—A roomy, second-hand landau has been fitted with a removable stretcher, and serves very well.

DISINFECTING APPARATUS.—The steam disinfector has been moved to a more convenient situation near to the hospital. 168 articles disinfected, but it is not yet as fully used for bedding, mattresses, etc., as it should be.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.—Three cottages in Brass Mill Lane, Saltford, condemned in November, 1892, were again inspected, and proving unsatisfactory, the landlord was required to carry out further improvements. In October, sixteen out of a row of nineteen houses at Fairfield Terrace, Keynsham, were condemned as “unfit for habitation,” and Statutory Notices served.

BYE-LAWS AND URBAN POWERS.—No fresh powers obtained in 1894. A complete list of Urban powers is given on page 38. The Model Bye-Laws for new streets and buildings are in force. Sanction should be obtained for the Bye-Law obtained for Keynsham District in 1893, laying down 8ft. 6in. as the minimum height for an inhabited room.

NOTIFICATION ACT.—In force since November 1st, 1891.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—Regulations in force since March 25th, 1889. Thirty dairies inspected.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (PREVENTION) ACT AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS AMENDMENT ACT also adopted.

SPECIAL.—Of 116 plans for new buildings, 75 were disapproved; 36 new buildings resulted in 37 contraventions of bye-laws. This points to need for continued and rigid enforcement of building bye-laws, which will result to the benefit of future generations in securing sound houses and free air space (pp. 40, 41). Much routine work secured, and special inspections and reports made.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT appended.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Appended in tabular form. Complaints received, 100; houses inspected and revisits, 406; orders issued, 55; premises cleansed, 69; houses disinfected, 71; sewers cleansed, 1; house drains dealt with, 189; privies, cesspools, and w.c.'s dealt with, 296; wells closed, 7; waters analysed, 9; old houses supplied with Company's water, 70; wells or cisterns cleansed or repaired, 17; new houses certified, 12; Company's water supplied to new houses, 9; supplied by wells, 3; bake-houses inspected, 12; slaughter-houses inspected, 10; factories inspected, 15; over-crowding reported and abated, 17; legal proceedings, 1.

1894.

LANGPORT.

RURAL.

AREA, 59,410 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. JOHN MORGAN.

POPULATION, 14,485 (census 1891). Estimated as stationary. Register General gives census 1891 as 14,478.

GEOLOGY.—

OCCUPATION.—

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . .	24·6 per 1000 living.	28·2.	26·2.	27·2.	23·4.
DEATH RATE . .	15·4 „ „	16·8.	18·5.	19·2.	18·8.
ZYMOTIC RATE .	·48 „ „	0·3.	0·5.	0·08.	1·4.
INFANT MORTALITY	86·8 per 1000 births.	83.	118.	94.	128.

WATER SUPPLY.—Chiefly from shallow wells in danger of pollution by cesspits. Where villages are large enough to bear the expense, a supply from some outside source advised. Such a scheme in consideration for Somerton, which it is intended to supply by spring water conveyed in pipes, as all the wells are polluted. A scheme to bring water by conduit from Barrington under consideration for Westport village. Langport is supplied entirely by wells, public pumpwater found polluted, but was improved by lining the well with brick, but Medical Officer doubts this measure being efficient. Seven samples of water taken for analysis.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Langport is drained by an open ditch, parallel with the street, which receives the house drainage and that of 3 slaughter-houses; the ditch is scoured occasionally but not effectually by closing the locks below, but this cannot be done in a dry season: the result is that “a mephitic smell pervades the houses in summer.” In anything like a town or village cesspits universally exist in an ancient and modern form.

SCAVENGING.—Inspector reports that the question of disposal of house refuse, especially in Langport, requires attention: a large quantity is thrown into ditches greatly blocking them and interfering with their flushing.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notification Act not in force.

One case of Enteric Fever at Somerton caused by polluted well water; well closed.

An outbreak of Measles at High Ham necessitated closure of the School, no death.

Slight outbreak of Scarlatina at Puckington early in year.

Diphtheria caused 2 deaths, Puerperal Fever 2, Measles 3, and Whooping Cough 2.

Phthisis caused 11 deaths, chiefly in women leading indoor lives. Inflammatory lung disease again conspicuous, and attributed to inferior and comfortless cottages of many of the poor.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—None.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No mention. Disinfectants were supplied to flooded cottage property.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—“No inspection of dairies and cowhouses as required by recent Acts.”

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—Cleansed and limewashed, 11.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Appended. Premises inspected, 573. Cesspits, drains, and ditches, repaired or cleansed, 107; new drains and alterations, 15; houses cleansed and limewashed, 19; 1 overcrowding case abated.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—Medical Officer reports many cottages old and dilapidated, and not adapted to modern ideas of comfort. Assuming that every habitation should have a dry basement, a bedroom with window opening to outer air, and fireplace with chimney, a large number do not realize this standard: but low rents necessitated by low wages prevent owners building new cottages. No particular overcrowding. Inspector reports 1,723 inspections made under this Act, and 337 houses cleansed, limewashed and rendered wholesome.

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

Floods.—A large area of the district is liable to periodical flooding owing to its low position. Langport main street is 2 to 4 ft. under water after heavy rain. Medical Officer considers it doubtful if dwellings are fit for healthy occupation after such immersion in water: he also thinks the only remedy for flooding and also for sewage nuisance mentioned above, is the gradual abandonment of houses on marshland and rebuilding on more healthy sites on higher ground at upper end of town; but there is great difficulty in inducing landowners there to let for building, “at present during times of flood cows may be seen grazing on dry land while human beings are wallowing in filth. The only prospect seems to lie in a Parish Council taking possession of the land on the ground of public utility.”

MERE.

1894.

RURAL.

AREA, 34,456 acres.

M.O.H., DR. B. POPE BARTLETT.

POPULATION, 6,756 (census 1891). 6,898 (estimated to middle 1894).

GEOLOGY.—

OCCUPATION.—

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE .	25·8 per 1000 living.	24·3.	23·8.	26.	21·2.
DEATH RATE .	13·4 „ „	10·7.	23·3.	14·6.	13·7.
ZYMOTIC RATE .	0·72 „ „	0·5.	0·8.	0·8.	0·2.
INFANT MORTALITY .	67·4 per 1000 births.	77.	150.	73·8.	70·5.

WATER SUPPLY.—No lack of water reported owing to continuous rainfall: quality in some cases however far from satisfactory. Samples from most of the public water

supplies as well as some private wells examined: purity of the latter doubtful. Attention to quality of well waters, especially shallow well waters, of which there are many, emphasized. Some of the shallow well waters examined were quite unfit for domestic supply: wells ordered to be cleansed.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES EXAMINED.— * * * *

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—45 foul cesspools dealt with. The danger of not cleaning cesspools regularly pointed out; dangers from foul gases and contamination of water supplies by foul cesspools emphasized and regular cleansing and supervision advised as, in a rural district where sewerage is impossible, cesspools are a necessary evil whose danger must be minimised.

SCAVENGING.—24 collections of refuse, chiefly pig manure, reported and removed.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notifications, 28, viz.:—Scarlatina, 5; Diphtheria, 10; Erysipelas, 13.

During the year district has been “remarkably free” from infectious cases.
* * * * The 10 Diphtheria cases were isolated and scattered; in one, if not more, instance, disease was contracted outside the district. * * * *

Influenza epidemic in January and February; cases severe but recovery good; it was very infectious, “whole households being seized with it in rapid succession.”

The Medical Officer thinks that as Diphtheria “originates chiefly from defective sanitation, its prevalence may be taken as an index of the general sanitary condition of the district.”

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—None.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No mention. The value of the Notification Act was shown by the success of the prompt steps, as to isolation, etc., in the 2 Scarlatina introductions, which followed on notification.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—No mention.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKE-HOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—No mention.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—None. Medical Officer mentions action by the Inspector. Nuisances reported, 72; abated, 70; houses inspected, 1,270.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—No mention.

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

The Medical Officer reports that he has visited all parts of the district and considers the sanitary condition good; sanitary defects reported and corrected.

1894.

SHEPTON MALLET.

RURAL.

AREA, 46,284 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. J. T. HYATT.

POPULATION, 10,059 (census 1891). Estimated as stationary in 1894.

GEOLOGY,

OCCUPATION,

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . . .	28·5 per 1000 living.	28·0.	25·8.	29·7.	24·4.
DEATH RATE . . .	13·6 „ „	13·4.	14·7.	15·3.	15·3.
ZYMOTIC RATE . . .	0·7 „ „	0·7.	0·4.	1·19.	0·9.
INFANT MORTALITY	104·5 per 1000 births.	117.	92·3.	73·5.	136·7.

WATER SUPPLY.—Medical Officer's list of water supplies to villages and hamlets identical with 1892 Report, except that Ditchheat and Stoke St. Michael are now reported as having a fair supply. Inspector reports Ashwick supply improved, but still requiring attention: work done at Prestleigh spring, and Evercreech supply secured by sinking pipes close to spring-head. Pilton waterworks extended. Old pipes replaced at Dean, giving a better supply. Hornblotton water scheme still under consideration. Proper supplies still needed at Ditchheat, Holcombe and Stoke St. Michael: these supplies also advised by Medical Officer.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Inspector reports that no new schemes of drainage have been carried out in 1894; one or two small drains have been laid for separate houses.

SCAVENGING.—No mention.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—“The health of the district during the year has been good.” Notifications, 20, viz: Smallpox, 2; Scarlet Fever, 8; Diphtheria, 1; Enteric Fever, 3; Erysipelas, 6. Enteric Fever caused 2 deaths, and Measles 4.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—In common with Urban Authority: near the Workhouse, Shepton Mallet.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—Small steam chamber at Shepton Mallet Workhouse.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—Draft Regulations of Local Government Board stated not to be applicable to the needs of the district.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKE-HOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES. — 1 Slaughter-house registered; condition clean, visited frequently.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Appended. Quoted from, above. Several nuisances reported, and all but one remedied: one case of overcrowding; only two official notices were required.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.—“Houses reported, none.”

BYE-LAWS.—Model bye-laws for slaughter-houses in force for parishes of Ashwick, Batcombe, Binegar, Croscombe, Ditchheat, East Lydford, Evercreech, Pilton, and Stoke Lane.

FACTORIES.—Conveniences at, “efficient.”

VACCINATION.—“Well attended to.”

1894.

SHERBORNE.*RURAL.*

AREA, 40,393 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. W. H. WILLIAMS.

POPULATION, 7,382 (census 1891).

GEOLOGY,

OCCUPATION.—Agricultural and glove-making.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . .	26·14 per 1000 living.	27·2.	19·37.	27.	18·3.
DEATH RATE . .	12·46 " "	13·6.	15·4.	13·6.	11·6.
ZYMOTIC RATE .	0·5 " "	0·6.	0·6.	0·6.	0·7.
INFANT MORTALITY	72·53 per 1000 births.	94.	133.	75.	140.

WATER SUPPLY.—Generally from surface wells and springs. * * * * In Poyntington the supply is ample, but badly utilised; it is difficult for many cottages to get proper supply. At Yetminster 15 houses now connected to Yeovil town supply. Cases of defective water supply reported, 27; wells unfit for use reported, 8.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—“The condition of things remains the same as last year.” * * * * Outfalls of Yeovil, Sherborne, and Milborne Port Sewerage works frequently visited.

RIVER'S POLLUTION.—The River Yeo still polluted at Darkhole by untreated Sherborne effluent, and at Compton Mills by untreated Yeovil effluent. Milborne Port system seems to work well since breakdown in Spring caused by heavy rain was rectified.

SCAVENGING.—No mention.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notifications, 33; equal to a case rate of 4·47 per 1000, viz.: Scarletina, 7; Diphtheria, 9; Continued Fever, 11; Erysipelas, 6. Diphtheria caused 3 deaths, Membranous Croup 1, Erysipelas 1. Measles and Whooping Cough prevalent in many villages, necessitating closure of the Elementary Schools.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—None.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No apparatus.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—No mention.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—No mention.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Included in Medical Officer's Report. Houses, etc., inspected, 85; nuisances from insufficient drainage, 23; insufficient closet accommodation, 18; drainage, closet and sink defects rectified, 47; overcrowding, 3.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.—* * * *

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

1894.

SOUTH MOLTON.

RURAL.

AREA, 137,233 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. BODY.

POPULATION, 12,314 (census 1891).

GEOLOGY,

OCCUPATION,

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . . .	24·7 per 1000 living.	19·4.	26·2.	27·9.	22·5.
DEATH RATE . . .	15·1 „ „	12·7.	16·4.	13·8.	15·2.
ZYMOTIC RATE . . .	0·97 „ „	0·7.	0·3.	0·8.	1·4.
INFANT MORTALITY	114·7 per 1000 births.	96·2.	89·7.	81·3.	117.

WATER SUPPLY.—Over 70 samples of well water from various parts tested: about half were polluted; cleansing the well sufficed to make water usable in several instances; in the others, supposed sources of pollution were dealt with, and wells remained condemned till analysis gave satisfactory results.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—A very large number of closets with cesspits condemned, and replaced by pail privies. Many new closets erected, and closet accommodation has been much improved generally.

SCAVENGING.—No mention.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notification Act alluded to as very useful in checking the Scarlet Fever as it arose in various parts. Cases notified, 85, viz.: Scarlatina, 46; Diphtheria, 25; Membranous Croup, 4; Enteric Fever, 3; Puerperal Fever, 1; Erysipelas, 6. * * * * Influenza prevalent early in year, 19 deaths directly ascribed to it. Cancer caused 19 deaths; Scarlet Fever caused 1 death; Whooping Cough, 4; Membranous Croup, 4; Diphtheria, 3.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—None. Medical Officer remarks that in cottages, no matter what precautions are taken, it is very difficult to prevent spread among the other members of family.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No apparatus mentioned. Infectious cases visited, instructions given, and houses and bedding, etc., disinfected by Inspector.

DAIRIES.—Many inspected: generally in fair condition. Faulty conditions ordered to be rectified.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES.—Many inspected, generally in fair condition. Cautions as to cleanliness necessary in some.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Not appended. Medical Officer mentions nuisances from pigstyes abated.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.—* * * *

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

SCHOOLS.—Several inspected, and improved privy accommodation and better ventilation advised and secured.

1894.

TAUNTON.

RURAL.

AREA, 71,906 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. H. J. ALFORD.

POPULATION, 18,753 (census 1891); 18,509 (estimated to middle 1894).

GEOLOGY.

OCCUPATION.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . .	27·0 per 1000 living.	28·7.	28·5.	26·1.	27·3.
DEATH RATE . .	14·2 „ „	15·2.	16·0.	17·7.	15·5.
ZYMOTIC RATE .	0·9 „ „	2·3.	0·6.	0·8.	1·2.
INFANT MORTALITY	85·8 per 1000 births.	105·7.	114·8.	97.	86.

WATER SUPPLY.—Samples of water from wells at Staplegrove, Kingston, Cheddon, Stoke St. Gregory, Creech, West Monckton, Thornfalcon, West Hatch, and Bishops Lydeard analysed; all were more or less impure. Out of 36 samples from Bishops Lydeard only 3 were pure; pollution due to an old leaky stone sewer, surface drainage, or cesspits. A scheme to supply this village with good water from a point 150 feet above village will probably be carried out before the summer is over.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Sewage outfalls at North Curry and Hatch Beauchamp worked well. Repairs carried out at Norton. Premises at Shoreditch, which fouled neighbouring stream with sewage, now all connected to Town Sewer. Drainage of premises at Fairwater arranged for; a loan for £600 is sanctioned to make a sewer for them entering the Town Sewer; works will shortly be completed. Part of Bishops Lydeard sewer found faulty, was relaid. Sewage of new houses at Holway carried into Town Sewer. Many nuisances from discharge of sewage into ditches abated, especially at Bishops Hull, Bickenhall, Stoke St. Gregory, Bishops Lydeard, and Pitminster. Where premises are connected to a

sewer, the necessity of thorough and efficient system of flushing and ventilation is urged; and cesspits should be small, kept as dry as possible, and be frequently cleansed. Enforcement of Bye-laws as to emptying cesspits urged.

SCAVENGING.—No mention.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notifications, 71, viz.: Scarlet Fever, 39; Diphtheria, 13; Enteric Fever, 8; Puerperal Fever, 2; Erysipelas, 9. Zymotic deaths, 13, viz.: from Scarlet Fever, 2; Typhoid Fever, 1; Whooping Cough, 6; Diarrhœa, 4. Scarlet Fever rather prevalent throughout year; type mild, favouring spread; cases occurred in 15 parishes; early removal to Hospital prevented an epidemic. Diphtheria occurred in 11 parishes; in every instance either dampness, imperfect drainage, or polluted water, or all three combined, were found. Many cases removed to Hospital, no epidemic occurred. Enteric Fever occurred in Creech, West Monckton, Staplegrove, and Taunton St. James; in every instance polluted water was found.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—Used in common with Urban authority. 44 cases admitted, viz.: Scarlet Fever, 28; Diphtheria, 6; Enteric Fever, 8; Erysipelas, 2.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—Disinfection carried out either by the disinfectors or the occupants themselves.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—Inspected.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES.—Inspected. Defective bakehouse reported at Bishops Hull.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Medical Officer regrets Inspector's Reports are not attached, but this is impossible owing to death of one Inspector, removal of the other to that one's district, and appointment of new Inspector. A large number of nuisances were reported, and orders to abate given; dirty houses, defective drains, and foul cesspits dealt with. Cases of overcrowding occurred in 4 parishes.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—Some houses were found unfit for habitation, and action had to be taken to remedy the faulty conditions. One house at Creech was exceptionally bad.

BYE-LAWS.—Bye-laws for new buildings.

1894.

WELLINGTON.

RURAL.

AREA, 55,596 (Somerset and Devon Parishes).

M.O.H., Dr. C. RANDOLPH.

POPULATION, 6,615 (Somerset Parishes, census 1891).

GEOLOGY,

OCCUPATION, mainly agricultural; woollen manufactories at Wellington.

	1894.		1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE .	26·3 per 1000 living.	Somerset Parishes.	24·4.	21·9.	26·7.	20·9.
DEATH RATE .	14·3 " "		14·5.	14·9.	16·0.	14·2.
ZYMOTIC RATE .	0·75 " "		0·9.	0·6.	1·6.	1·5.
INFANT MORTALITY	97·7 per 1000 births.		129.	103·4.	90·4.	78·4.

WATER SUPPLY.—Local Government Board inquiry held on proposed supply to Milverton, in November; result, a larger rateable area, and if possible, use of some spring at a higher level advised; proposed scheme not sanctioned. Delay thus caused is lamented, as over seventy houses were without proper supply during summer, and many existing supplies are of doubtful purity. The water from North Street well again contaminated. Nothing done as to supply of Bradford: various schemes proposed and rejected: the difficulty appears to be the cost.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—No fresh drainage operations during year; repairs to old drains carried out. Larger villages have a drainage system too often running "into the nearest stream." Small villages and scattered houses rely on cesspits with an occasional earth closet. Medical Officer is endeavouring to abolish the large tightly-covered cesspit, which he believes to be an abomination, and substitute a small cemented cesspit, covered only from rain, or an earth closet with a movable metal pan: many old cesspits reported as nuisances during year.

SCAVENGING.—None undertaken by the Sanitary Authority.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notification Act "acting efficaciously and well." Notifications in Somerset parishes, 19, viz.:—Scarlatina, 17; Erysipelas, 2.

Scarlet Fever less prevalent than in 1893, not epidemic, of mild type; one death at Milverton. Whooping Cough was specially prevalent in the parishes of Stawley and Ashbrittle. Medical Officer reports closing the Board School here "with, I think, satisfactory results": there were 4 deaths.

Medical Officer thinks Erysipelas might possibly "be left out of the notification list with advantage."

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—None. Subject discussed by authority, and opinion appears to be, that in a scattered agricultural district the expense of hospital would not be balanced by the advantage gained.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No mention of disinfecting machine. In infectious cases, printed instructions are distributed, and disinfectants often supplied by authority. Houses disinfected after Scarlet Fever.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—No mention.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES.—“Inspected as hitherto.”

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Medical Officer says Inspector has furnished him with a “long report, taking each parish separately. I cannot embody it very well in my own report, so think it better to enclose it herewith.” It is not to hand.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—House accommodation causes much difficulty. Houses fall into disrepair, and owners cannot afford to rebuild or repair. One house condemned as unfit for habitation at West Buckland, and one at Langford Budville.

BYE-LAWS.—“The Bye-laws, which have for so long been under consideration, are, I believe, in the hands of the printers.”

Medical Officer reports systematic (in some parts house-to-house) inspection.

1894.

WELLS.

RURAL.

AREA, 58,008 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. H. W. LIVETT.

POPULATION, 11,380 (census 1891); 10,564 (estimated to middle 1894).

GEOLOGY.—As in former reports (*vide* 1893).

OCCUPATION.—Chiefly agricultural.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . . .	22·04 per 1000 living.	28·4.	26·3.	28·4.	23·3.
DEATH RATE . . .	12·87 „ „	12·78.	14·5.	15·8.	23·0.
ZYMOTIC RATE . . .	0·66 „ „	1·1.	0·7.	1·0.	0·6.
INFANT MORTALITY	111·58 per 1000 births.	73·3.	90·2.	133·7.	127.

WATER SUPPLY.—“Much as reported in former years.” Quantity of water in 1894, good, but quality in some parts of the district, especially where stored in pools or pits leaves much to be desired. Examination of samples from such sources shows that the impurity is however probably of vegetable origin. 5 samples of water examined. Westbury water supply remains as in former reports.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—“Drainage for the most part is gradually improving.” No system of drainage exists as houses are scattered. The ditches into which closets drain require constant attention. Westbury drainage remains as in former years, but no illness, as in 1891, has occurred. Drainage at houses in Bath Road, Wells Out Parish, complained of as nuisance (outbreaks of disease have recently and for years past occurred here), and Medical Officer advised inspection by competent authority. He is informed that the Inspector was ordered by authority to inspect and report, and he considers the drainage satisfactory. “I trust no further outbreak will occur.” Inspector notes want of closet accommodation; in many cases one closet has to serve three or four families: closets provided.

SCAVENGING.—No mention.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notifications, 45, viz.:—Scarlet Fever, 41; Diphtheria, 1 Enteric Fever, 2; Erysipelas, 1.

Scarlet Fever never epidemic, usually confined to original house: no death

Measles epidemic in part of the district, but there was no death. Enteric Fever caused 2 deaths. Whooping Cough occurred in four parishes and caused 5 deaths. No death from Diarrhœa; cases of Diarrhœa fewer than usual.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—None.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No “public disinfecting apparatus.” Cases of Infectious disease visited, printed instructions left, and, where necessary, disinfectants supplied. 11 houses fumigated.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—No mention.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—Inspected; generally in good order. “Bakehouse and slaughter-houses inspected, 19.”

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES’ REPORT.—Appended. General nuisance and special inspection work recorded. Notices (not verbal) served, 58; notices to owners to cleanse and repair dirty dilapidated dwellings, 21; notices to abate pollution of millstream at Baltonsborough by closet drainage, 10.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—371 houses in Butleigh, Walton, Sharpham, and West Pennard inspected and reported on by Inspector and Medical Officer: overcrowded and dirty houses remedied, 4; improper drainage remedied, 10; improper closet accommodation, 6; houses unfit for habitation, 3. A considerable number of defects pointed out have been dealt with under authority’s direction, and further action is being taken.

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

Case of illegal exposure while infected with Scarlet Fever was taken before magistrates and a fine secured.

1894.

WILLITON (East).

RURAL.

AREA, 39,449 acres (Medical Officer’s estimate).

M.O.H., Dr. BRETtingham.

POPULATION, 8,535 (census 1891). 8,162 (estimated to middle 1894).

GEOLOGY,

OCCUPATION.—Mainly agricultural; a harbour and paper mills at Watchet.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . .	27·6 per 1000 living.	26·7.	22·2.	26·4.	25·5.
DEATH RATE . .	16·6 „ „	16·5.	20·9.	19·3.	18·2.
ZYMOTIC RATE .	0·73 „ „	1·4.	2·6.	0·3.	0·6.
INFANT MORTALITY	61·9 per 1000 births.	108·5.	89·9.	92.	99.

WATER SUPPLY.—Watchet and Holford have good public supply to nearly all the houses. Brompton Ralph, Withiel Florey, and Clatworthy, supplied chiefly by impounded springs. Public tap at Stogursey supplies village, except lower part, which depends on wells. Kilve supplied by a mason’s shoot from spring in hill behind. Stogumber very badly supplied; the village proper supplied by fifteen wells (twelve private, three public), two shoots, and a tap; no one knows whence or how the tap is sup-

plied. Three of the six public sources often fail in summer, and the other two are declared by County Analyst unfit for use. Five of the private wells have been condemned. Notice has been given by the Council to owners of houses without proper supply to provide one within a month. "Good water can only be obtained from outside the village, as the whole of the ground water under it is probably thoroughly polluted." The other villages supplied almost entirely by shallow wells.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—*Williton*.—The end of North Street sewer (adverted to in 1893 Report) improved: a proper brick sewer constructed for sixty yards below Mason's Arms to commencement of the ditch, and the sewage gutter from this point deepened and given good fall. Condition of Long Street sewer (mentioned in 1892 and 1893 Reports) remains the same; it was reported to authority, and Medical Officer advised an open brick sewer to be carried along the lane, and if the sludge was wanted, to make two precipitation tanks at the end (to be used alternately) and the effluent to be used on Donniford meadows as before. *Watchet*.—Part of sewage goes into harbour, and creates nuisance, especially behind London Hotel and near the slaughter-house; Council is considering the matter. *Stogumber*.—Sewage disposed of chiefly in permeable cesspits. *Monksilver*.—Privies where possible are placed over the stream. *Crowcombe*.—Most of the drains run to a stream passing through this village, Lee Crossing, Stogumber, and Williton, to the sea at Donniford. *West Quantoxhead* and *Stogursey*.—Most cottages have ashpit privies. In rest of district privies over large cesspools are in use.

SCAVENGING.—Not undertaken by authority, nor under contract.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notification: advised that Measles be included. Cases notified: Scarlatina, 3; Diphtheria, 1; Enteric Fever, 10; Puerperal Fever, 1; Erysipelas, 7. Total, 22.

Scarlet Fever, 3 cases, no death; disease in one case at Workhouse, probably imported. One Erysipelas case was due to accidental inoculation. Enteric Fever, 10 cases, one death: of these 6, possibly 8, had common origin. First of 6 arose at Crowcombe, from drinking water from the Crowcombe stream as it ran through Stogumber; this case was followed by 5 cases in one house at Lee Crossing (below Crowcombe on stream), this family drank stream water; case 7 was at Stogumber, and the well was found polluted, case 8 was at Crowcombe, in a boy who worked near the Crowcombe stream but who stated he did not drink the stream water; case 9 was apparently not connected with any previous case; the drinking water was found polluted, and 4 others in the family were indisposed; case 10 was in Stogumber, patient drank polluted water from the village supply. A case of Typhoid Fever occurred in 1890, connected with the same water. Diphtheria, a fatal case at Stogursey, apparently ascribed to a common cesspit close to the patient's house. There was a case of Enteric Fever in same house in 1890, and one in another house close by in 1893.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—None; efforts made in 1893 to provide one by private subscription failed.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No apparatus. Infectious cases visited, instructions given as to disposal of excreta, disinfection of bedding, etc. Persons likely to drink water supposed to have caused Typhoid Fever warned. Disinfectant action of sunlight and air alluded to. Carbolic acid and sulphur fumigation used as required.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—Cow-keepers not registered; except a few in St. Decumans, they are farmers who retail surplus milk to neighbours. Those in St. Decumans inspected and found satisfactory.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES.—Inspected and found satisfactory; no bad meat came under notice.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Not appended. Medical officer says the Inspector has carried out general and special inspection.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—Very little overcrowding in the district. Brompton Ralph rather badly off for suitable cottages. Many cottages in West and East Quantoxhead, Strington and Stogursey are comparatively new and well constructed.

BYE-LAWS.—None in force.

Medical Officer alludes to difficulties in ship inspection in Watchet harbour; most of vessels entering are coasters, and men only sleep aboard at sea; ships inspected found fairly satisfactory. Alluding to the low death rate, the Medical Officer deprecates the acceptance of this as test of sanitary condition of district, and remarks that the presence of Enteric Fever in a district points more strongly than anything else to sanitary defects.

1894.

WILLITON (West).

RURAL.

AREA, 56,740 acres (Medical Officer's estimate).

M.O.H., Dr. J. G. WILSON.

POPULATION, 6,658 (census 1891). 6,897 (estimated to middle 1894).

GEOLOGY.

OCCUPATION.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE	23·0 per 1000 living.	22·8.	18·4.	24·9.	20.
DEATH RATE	15·0 „ „	14·3.	16·9.	16·1.	14.
ZYMOTIC RATE	0·57 „ „	0·8.	0·5.	0·6.	0·8.
INFANT MORTALITY	81·7 per 1000 births.	70.	104·8.	96.	117.

WATER SUPPLY.—Plentiful throughout the year. Several samples from wells and supplies examined and found satisfactory. Some cottages at Washford have had a proper supply given them.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—*Carhampton* in same condition as last year, sadly needing system of drainage. *Cutcombe*.—The drainage at Wheddon Cross is improved. *Dunster*.—Nothing done (*vide* report), “Little wonder that I have to report, as the year closes, one of the severest outbreaks of Diphtheria at

Dunster that we have had in the district for some years, though the first cases came from a somewhat overcrowded house at Alcombe." *Alcombe*.—A few more houses connected to the drainage system. *Lucombe*.—The stream carries off what drains there are. *Luxborough, Roadwater, and Washford* discharge privies directly into the stream. *Porlock* required much attention; no definite system, several separate outfalls; outlet in Ridler's Field has been improved. Doverhay system requires completion, and drain connections; the privy at Porlock Weir satisfactorily reconstructed. *Timberscombe*.—Many closets reconstructed, but general condition bad. *Wootton Courtney*.—The drainage into the road at eastern end of village still unsatisfactory. Drains at Carhampton school repaired. "An excellent system of drainage is in hand for Lower Washford."

SCAVENGING.—Done by individual effort; frequently only after summary notice.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notification Act "continues to be extremely useful." Notifications, 30; viz.: Scarlatina, 9; Diphtheria, 16; Erysipelas, 5. One case of Scarlet Fever at Oare not notified, no prosecution instituted. Other cases of Diphtheria at Dunster unreported, as they were attended by a local chemist and were only discovered three weeks after, when one child was dying with paralysis. Influenza "raged" during first quarter, and caused many deaths, chiefly affected the Dunster sub-district. Schools closed at Selworthy, Lucombe, and Porlock on account of Measles. School at Carhampton closed owing to Scarlet Fever in master's family. Diphtheria appeared at Timberscombe in June, and at Alcombe in November; it was confined to one terrace in latter village, and first case was a death certified as Tonsillitis. It appeared at Dunster in December, and then at Tivington. The disease continues at end of year; several special reports made; a quantity of infected bedding destroyed.

Whooping Cough very troublesome in summer. School at Porlock closed on this account, but not by Medical Officer of Health.

Comment made on small number of deaths from Phthisis—only 7; none in Minehead Rural sub-district.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—"No further progress made towards this desideratum."

DISINFECTION MEANS.—Carbolic Acid and Chloride of Lime distributed occasionally.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—One dairy at Alcombe inspected and reconstructed.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—One bakehouse at Dunster inspected; baker has removed from district. The slaughter-house at Dunster inspected and surrounding drainage improved.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Medical Officer says: "The Inspector of Nuisances' Report is appended, and a copy of it should be sent to the County Council and the Local Government Board." It is not to hand.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—Many families of 11 or 12 are crowded into two small bedrooms; “this evil will never be completely remedied until the cottages are made larger, or the cottagers have smaller families.” Some improvements in this direction made at Dunster, Alcombe, Woodcombe, and Luxborough. A house at Rock Foot, Dunster, condemned and demolished.

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

General.—Medical Officer gives records of visits to all parts of the district, and of action taken and advice given, and states, “our attention has been chiefly directed to existing nuisances, and their immediate removal, rather than to any permanent improvements.”

1894.

WINCANTON.

RURAL.

AREA, 68,235 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. F. STOCKWELL.

POPULATION, 19,169 (census 1891).

GEOLOGY.—*Vide* 1893 Report.

OCCUPATION.—Ditto

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . .	23·1 per 1000 living.	25·4.	22·4.	26·8.	24·1.
DEATH RATE . .	15·7 „ „	15·1.	16·3.	13·8.	16·3.
ZYMOTIC RATE . .	1·87 „ „	1·25.	0·6.	0·15.	0·6.
INFANT MORTALITY.	105·8 per 1000 births.	104·5.	71·9.	69·9.	104·6.

WATER SUPPLY.—The scheme for supplying the town of Bruton, sanctioned by the Local Government Board, postponed, owing to conditions required by the owners of the water to be utilized. Other sources have been sought for, and Medical Officer hopes the matter will still receive attention. Complaint was made of imperfect supply at Charlton Horethorne, and the supply was specially reported on. One portion of village is well supplied, the other practically destitute. A Committee appointed to deal with the matter, but evidence as to permanency of present supply was conflicting; the use of another spring to augment present supply was suggested: a report on the matter will shortly be made by the Committee. Spring by road at South Cheriton, which was open to pollution, covered in and pump erected, giving good supply of pure water. 6 wells cleaned out; 3 samples of water analysed.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—The head of main drain, and gratings over roadside drains, in various parts of Bruton Town, very offensive at times owing to insufficient flushing. An extension of the sewer from Bow Bridge to Church Bridge, and better flushing arrangements for whole sewer advised. Castle Cary system works fairly well; effluent much improved; filter beds liable to choke, but larger settling tanks to be made to obviate this. Queen Camel system works well, no smell now from the settling tank; an offensive ditch at back of Mr. White's farm-

yard filled in and pipe drain laid to carry the sewage. Milborne Port sewage now treated on land. School privies at Charlton Horethorne removed from near road, and nuisance abated. Horsington brook specially reported on, as a number of drains entered it: its condition now much improved, but some cottages still drain into it; "as this stream supplies cottages lower down with drinking water, its purity is essential." Wincanton sewage tanks working satisfactorily, more precipitant is used and filter beds relieved of strain; effluent, now passing into river, is clear.

SCAVENGING.—No regular system; a little is done to roads by Highway Board: "the adoption of Bye-laws is desirable."

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notification Act not in force. One case of Smallpox at Stony Stoke: family were confined to cottage and garden. After recovery, bedding, etc. was burnt and cottage disinfected. There was no other case. The patient was the only one of family not vaccinated. There were cases of Scarlet Fever at Bruton in April, and Horsington in May and October; at latter place scholars, living at or near infected cottages, were excluded from school. A death from Diphtheria occurred at Wincanton on January 1st; several cases had been reported in Infant School in 1893, and the death above was schoolmistress. Drainage defects found, but new school is building. Another death from Diphtheria at Wincanton in March: no sanitary defects found, and patient attended another school. Another case was at Milborne Port; child had been playing over an open drain. Another case was at Sparkford: grave drainage defects and nuisance noted. Measles very prevalent through the year: opening of Trade School postponed, and schools at Castle Cary, Ansford, North Cadbury, Charlton Horethorne, Corton Denham, and North Cheriton closed on this account. Measles caused 1 death in Bruton, 9 in Castle Cary, and 4 in Milborne Port. Whooping Cough prevalent during last 6 months: caused 8 deaths. Influenza in January, March, May, and November caused 9 deaths.

Scarlatina caused 1 death; Diphtheria, 4; Membranous Croup, 1; Continued Fever, 1; Measles, 14; Whooping Cough, 8; Diarrhœa, 7.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—None. "With so scattered and non-increasing a population, I do not consider that it is called for at present."

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No mention, except that 54 families were supplied with disinfectants.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—No mention.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES, AND COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—All inspected. 2 Common Lodging-houses registered.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Included in Medical Officer's Report. Two inspectors. Large amount of general nuisance work and inspection recorded as well as special inspection under Housing of Working Classes Act. Sanitary improvement to factory, 1.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES—1,362 houses inspected: 16 condemned; 26 repaired; 4 closed; nuisances abated, 130.

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

1894.

YEOVIL.

RURAL.

AREA, 52,696 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. J. D. ADAMS.

POPULATION, 18,254 (census 1891).

GEOLOGY,

OCCUPATION.—Mainly agricultural.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . . .	26·18 per 1000 living.	27·1.	27·1.	27.	25.
DEATH RATE . . .	14·29 „ „	14·4.	18·5.	17·1.	16·7.
ZYMOTIC RATE . . .	0·49 „ „	1·0.	0·2.	1·3.	3·1.
INFANT MORTALITY	117·1 per 1000 births.	92·7.	127·2.	112·6.	101·8.

WATER SUPPLY.—The Martock water supply has been extended to the hamlet of Coat. Stoke-sub-Hamdon still requires water supply. 12 samples analysed; 8 new wells sunk; 17 wells cleansed; 1 well deepened; 1 well closed; 4 pumps repaired.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Remarks as to need of efficient system of removal and disposal of sewage at Martock, Ash, and Stoke-sub-Hamdon, made in former reports, “still apply.” A dangerous and offensive escape of sewer gas in North Street, Martock, remedied temporarily, but the vent into the street has been checked only to assist escape of gas into dwellings through ill-constructed drains. There should be no difficulty in a simple system for Ash. A scheme for Stoke-sub-Hamdon still under consideration. New privies with vaults, 36; ditto, with pails, 11; new vaults, 95; new pails, 34; privies repaired, 75; new w.c.’s, 2; w.c.’s, new pans, 10. New drains, 48; repaired, 103; cleansed, 46; privy vaults cleansed, 167.

SCAVENGING.—No mention.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notifications, 62, viz.:—Scarlet Fever, 30; Diphtheria, 3; Membranous Croup, 1; Enteric Fever, 3; Puerperal, 1; Erysipelas, 24. A case convalescent from Smallpox entered district in May: in Medical Officer’s opinion there was no danger; there were no actual cases. Fewer cases of Scarlet Fever notified than any year since notification; disease of mild type, only one death. Glove-making had to be forbidden in one infected house; cases scattered all over district, except in the Yeovil Registration District. Increased intelligence and more willing co-operation among infected families noted. Diphtheria, 3 cases notified: one case was in a dairy at Stoke-sub-Hamdon; another child in same house died about the same time of “acute laryngitis”—probably also Diphtheria; water supply of house found polluted with sewage, also other sanitary defects. Disease probably of local origin, as no source of infection nor any throat affections which might have been “minor” Diphtheria could be traced. One case of Membranous Croup at Stoke-sub-Hamdon recovered. Enteric Fever, 3 cases, one death: one case evidently imported; no spread. Medical Officer gives table showing “remarkable increase” of Erysipelas since 1890, when only 7 cases were notified to 36 in 1893, and 24 in 1894. Schools

at Yeovilton and Chilton Cantelo closed on account of Measles. Diarrhœa not unduly prevalent or severe. Chinnock schools closed for Mumps. Great decrease in Phthisis deaths noted: average annual deaths for 15 years, 25; lowest year 1891, with 16, and highest year, 1879, with 36 deaths; only 9 deaths in 1894: this decrease "seems more than accidental."

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—
DISINFECTION MEANS.—

None. Medical Officer says: "I am quite aware of the great utility of such auxiliaries in preventing the spread of infectious disease, but I am not sure that they, especially the latter, would be of great practical service, the difficulties of application being great in so scattered a district. At the same time, I shall be glad to avail myself to the fullest extent of these means for the use of the district should they be placed at my disposal by the Council."

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—No mention.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—No mention.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—An excellent tabular Report appended. 783 cases dealt with; overcrowding, 10 cases; 13 houses disinfected; a large amount of general work recorded: details as to water supply and drainage appear above. The report contains the concluding portion of result of house-to-house inspection.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—Houses closed, 5. When alluding to decrease in Phthisis, the Medical Officer says: "It is possible to hope that improvement in sanitation, in the food and dwellings of the working classes may have contributed to decrease the mortality from this as from other diseases. The better housing of the working classes, including, as it does, pure air and pure water, 'is' the main factor in the maintenance of public health."

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

(A)

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1894, in the RURAL Sanitary Districts of Somersetshire, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. (Columns for Population and Births are in Table B.)	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES AT SUBJOINED AGES.							MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.																							
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	(i)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
									Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Group.	FEVERS.					Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever.	Ague.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	All other Diseases.	TOTAL.	
													Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Purpural.														
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)																							
1 AXBRIDGE	411	68	11	17	17	122	176	Under 5	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	1	18	...	...	53	77
								5 upwds.	...	6	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38	47	72	1	167	334
2 BATH	386	106	74	17	20	70	99	Under 5	...	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41	19	3	...	...	3	38	1	6	59	180
								5 upwds.	...	2	3	2	...	1	...	...	3	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	31	26	32	8	96	206
3 BEAMINSTER.	163	29	13	3	7	48	63	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	18	...	...	19	42
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	7	17	21	1	71	121
4 BEDMINSTER.			Totals	not	given.			Under 5
								5 upwds.
5 BRIDGWATER	270	48	22	8	16	78	98	Under 5	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	1	5	40	70
								5 upwds.	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	25	27	8	122	200
6 CHARD	336	56	29	11	14	71	145	Under 5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	...	...	...	...	30	...	...	45	85
								5 upwds.	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	28	21	5	158	241
7 CLUTTON	59	10	8		2	11	28	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	1	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	8	18
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	3	6	6	...	24	41
8 DULVERTON	66	8	3	3		15	37	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	10	11
								5 upwds.	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	4	4	7	...	37	55
9 FROME.		23	18	3	5	46	83	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	4	1	...	...	1	9	...	...	21	41
								5 upwds.	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	12	21	15	3	81	137
10 KEYNSHAM (Somerset portion)	85	15	9	4	6	16	35	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	9	...	1	13	24
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	5	10	11	1	33	61
11 LANGPORT	224	31	10	6	6	51	120	Under 5	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	1	12	2	...	20	41
								5 upwds.	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	18	35	6	111	183
12 MERE	93	12	3	2	4	20	52	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	8	15
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	5	10	15	3	44	78
13 SHEPTON MALLET.	137	30	10	4	2	41	50	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	...	20	40
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	5	21	8	1	59	97
14 SHERBORNE			Totals	not	given.			Under 5
								5 upwds.
15 SOUTH MOLTON.	187	35	23	6	4	42	77	Under 5	...	1	3	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	3	10	...	...	33	58
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	10	17	3	87	122
16 TAUNTON	264	43	17	8	11	63	122	Under 5	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	39	60
								5 upwds.	...	1	1	...	...	3	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	1	1	...	17	34	40	3	100	204
17 WELLINGTON	156	28	16	3	5	49	55	Under 5	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	1	...	...	1	18	...	...	10	44
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	26	18	8	50	112
18 WELLS	136	26	3	6	6	40	55	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	7	...	1	17	29
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	5	24	21	3	51	107
19 EAST	136	14	8	9	5	42	58	Under 5	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	14	22
WILLITON {								5 upwds.	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	10	14	24	4	57	114
20 WEST	104	13	5	2	4	28	52	Under 5	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	4	...	...	9	18
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	21	13	...	46	86
21 WINCANTON	301	47	33	6	5	89	121	Under 5	...	1	2	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	13	8	3	...	...	...	16	1	1	33	80
								5 upwds.	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	1	...	17	45	37	7	107	221
22 YEOVIL	261	56	12	8	5	90	90	Under 5	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	1	...	...	14	3	1	43	68
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	9	28	34	7	111	193

K₂ 11.

(B) TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officers of Health, during the Year 1894, in the RURAL Sanitary Districts of Somersetshire; classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.				NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.													NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
	Census 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1891.	Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
					Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus.	FEVERS.					Cholera.	Erysipelas.			Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	FEVERS.					Cholera.	Erysipelas.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
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TABLE showing, for each District, the number of Births and Deaths, the number of Deaths from Zymotic Diseases, the number of Deaths of Infants, also the Birth Rate, Death Rate, Zymotic Death Rate, and Infantile Rate.

DISTRICT.	No. of Births.	No. of Deaths.	No. of Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.	No. of Deaths of Infants.	Population.	Returned by Medical Officers of Health.				Corrections.			
						Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Zymotic Death Rate.	Infantile Rate.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Zymotic Death Rate.	Infantile Rate.
1 AXBRIDGE . .	609	411	13	68	24,948	24·4	16·5	(?)	111·5	...	...	0·52	...
2 BATH	727	386	83	106	23,352	31·13	16·52	3·05	145	...	...	3·55	...
3 BEAMINSTER .	276	163	8	29	10,366	26·8	15·7	0·49	123·2	26·6	...	0·77	105·1
4 BEDMINSTER. .	679	408	35	75	25,950	26·165	15·72	1·34	110·45	...	...	...	...
5 BRIDGWATER .	527	270	6	48	19,921	26·0	13·5	0·4	91·0	26·4	...	0·3	...
6 CHARD. . . .	546	326	11	56	21,000	26·0	15·0	0·30	102·5	...	15·5	0·52	...
7 CLUTTON * . .	109	59	9	10	16,425	26·5	14·3	2·1	91·7	...	...	...	...
8 DULVERTON . .	132	66	2	8	4,988	26·4	13·2	0·6	60·6	...	...	0·4	...
9 FROME	298	178	13	23	13,895	21·4	12·6	0·5	70·0	...	12·8	0·9	77·1
10 KEYNSHAM Somerset portion))	212	85	2	15	7,377	28·73	11·52	0·27	70·75	...	...	...	...
11 LANGPORT . .	357	224	7	31	14,485	(?)	15·4	0·03	68	24·6	...	0·48	86·8
12 MERE	178	93	5	12	6,898	25·8	13·4	0·72	67·4	...	...	...	...
13 SHEPTON MAL- LET }	287	137	8	30	10,059	28·5	13·6	0·7	104·5	...	...	...	...
14 SHERBORNE . .	193	92	4	14	7,382	26·14	12·46	·40	72·53	...	...	0·5	...
15 SOUTH MOLTON.	305	187	12	35	12,318	24·7	15·1	0·97	114·7	...	...	...	...
16 TAUNTON . . .	501	264	17	43	18,509	27·0	14·0	0·9	85·8	...	14·2	...	...
17 WELLINGTON .	174	95	5	17	6,615	26·3	14·3	0·75	97·7	...	...	...	...
18 WELLS	233	136	7	26	10,564	22·04	12·87	0·18	111·58	...	...	0·66	...
19 WILLITON {East West	226 159	136 104	6 4	14 13	8,162·550 6,897	27·686 (?)	16·661 (?)	·735 (?)	61·946 (?)	... 23·0	... 15·0	... 0·57	... 81·7
20 WINCANTON . .	444	301	36	47	19,169	23·1	15·7	1·87	105·8	...	...	...	...
21 YEOVIL	478	261	9	56	18,254	26·186	14·29	0·54	117·15	...	...	0·49	...
Totals of Rural Population. . . }	7,650	4,382	302	776	307,534	24·8	14·2	0·98	101·4	...	...	...	...
England and Wales 1894 }	889,242	498,515	52,771	121,918	38,776,154	29·6	16·6	1·76	137				

* All the returns for Clutton are for months of October, November and December only. The County totals are in consequence complete to this extent.

RURAL.

1894.

RURAL DISTRICTS.		POPULATION.				ACREAGE.		Occupation, etc.	Notifica- tion Act in force.	Isolation Hospital.	Disinfecting Apparatus.	Annual Report printed.	Action under Dairies, Cow- sheds, and Milkshops Order.	Inspector's Report.	L. G. B., Tables A & B.	Bye-Laws in force or recommended.	
		Census 1881.	Census 1891.	Increase.	Decrease.	M.O.H. Estimate, 1894.	Registrar General.										M. O. H.
1	AXBRIDGE	25,496	24,956	—	540	(?)	94,869	87,273	(?)	Yes	None	(?)	No	(?)	Yes	A & B	(?)
2	BATH	18,930	23,352	4,395	—	(?)	27,345	27,266	(?)	No	Yes	(?)	Trypo- graphed	Inspected	Summary appended by M.O.H.	A & B	(?)
3	BEAMINSTER	11,498	10,366	—	1,132	(?)	54,638	53,154	Agricultural	Yes	Yes	(?)	No	(?)	Summary embodied in M.O.H.'s Report	A & B	(?)
4	BEDMINSTER	24,421	26,535	2,114	—	25,950	50,664	(1891) 51,640	Iron Ore and Ochre Mines at Winford. Coal Mines at Bedminster and Long Ashton. Seafaring at Pill, Totterdown residen- tial, remainder Agricul- tural	Yes	Yes	Yes; at Workhouse	Yes	Visited and found in good order.	Yes	A & B	(?)
5	BRIDGWATER	21,660	20,837	—	823	(?)	87,758	60,458	(?)	Yes	(?)	(?)	Yes	Registered & Inspected	Yes	A only	For New Buildings as in 1892
6	CHARD	22,971	22,220	—	750	21,000	61,258	55,000 (Area re- duced in 1892)	Chiefly Agrcultural, some Factories	Yes	None	None	Yes	Inspected	Summary appended	A & B	(?)
7	CLUTTON	16,625	16,413	—	212	(?)	42,927	41,313	Mining, Agricultural, and Factories	Yes	None	(?)	No	(?)	None	A & B	(?)
8	DULVERTON	5,475	4,988	—	487	(?)	59,627	57,906	Agricultural	Yes	None	(?)	No	Registered, and Inspected	Short Summary by M.O.H.	A & B	(?)
9	FROME	13,785	13,237	—	548	13,895	52,021	49,502	Agricultural and Mining	Yes	None	None	Yes	Occasionally Inspected	Yes	A & B	(?)
10	KEYNSHAM	18,867	20,771	1,904	—	7,377	32,047	20,447 Somerset portion only	Keynsham and Brislington residential, Brass and Log- wood Mills, Gas Works, Soap and Shoe Factory at Keynsham, Brass Mills, Varnish Works at Salt- ford, Brick Works, Laun- dry and Agricultural	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Registered & Inspected	Yes	A & B	Model Bye-Laws in force for new streets and buildings in Brislington and Keyn- sham parishes, and for re- moval of house refuse by occupiers. Urban power same as 1893. Recom- mended for slaughter- houses, and for regulating height of inhabited rooms. (?)
11	LANGPORT	15,470	14,478	—	992	14,485	59,410	57,109	(?)	No	None	(?)	Type written	None	Yes	A & B	(?)
12	MERE	7,349	6,756	—	593	6,898	34,456	33,148	(?)	Yes	None	(?)	Yes	(?)	Short Summary by M.O.H.	A & B	(?)
13	SHEPTON MALLET	10,370	10,059	—	311	Sta- tionary	46,284	44,230	Weaving, Agricultural, Quarrying and Coal Mining	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	None	Yes	A & B	For Slaughter-houses in certain parishes.
14	SHERBORNE	7,642	7,382	—	260	7,382	40,393	39,049	Agricultural and Glove-making	Yes	None	None	No	(?)	Summary by M.O.H.	A & B	(?)
15	SOUTH MOLTON	13,326	12,314	—	1,002	(?)	137,233	(1891) 135,217	(?)	Yes	(?)	(?)	No	Inspected	None	A & B	(?)
16	TAUNTON	19,493	18,753	—	740	18,509	71,906	(1891) 69,203	(?)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Inspected	None	A & B	For New Buildings.
17	WELLINGTON	11,160	10,174	—	986	6,615 Somerset portion only	55,596	54,506	Mainly Agricultural Woollen Manufactories	Yes	None	(?)	Type written	(?)	None	A & B	(?)
18	WELLS	11,594	11,380	—	214	10,564	58,008	35,888	Chiefly Agricultural	Yes	None	None	Yes	(?)	Yes	A & B	(?)
19	WILLITON { East	17,218	15,470	—	1,748	8,162-550	102,469	39,449	Mainly Agricultural. A Harbour and Paper Mills	Yes	None	None	No	Not registered, but inspected	None	A & B	None in force
20									{ West	(?)	Yes	None	None	No	Inspected	Not appended	A & B
21	WINCANTON	19,770	19,169	—	601	(?)	68,235	66,120	Agricultural. Horse-hair weaving, Glove and Twine Factories	No	None	(?)	No	(?)	Summary by M.O.H.	A & B	(?)
22	YEOVIL	19,227	18,254	—	973	(?)	52,696	48,700	Mainly Agricultural	Yes	None	None	Yes	(?)	Yes	A & B	(?)

COUNTY OF SOMERSET.

ABSTRACTS OF URBAN REPORTS.

1894

1894.

BRIDGWATER.

URBAN.

AREA, 717 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. F. J. C. PARSONS.

POPULATION, 12,436 (census 1891); estimated for 1894, 12,600.

GEOLOGY,

OCCUPATION,

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE .	33·2 per 1000 living.	32·9.	30·9.	34·1.	33·8.
DEATH RATE .	18·5 „ „	20·6.	23·3.	20·9.	21·8.
ZYMOTIC RATE .	0·31 „ „	1·1.	1·9.	1·0.	1·6.
INFANT MORTALITY	95·2 per 1000 births.	101.	156.	137.	109.

WATER SUPPLY.—Remains good. There is, however, much waste, and much is surreptitiously taken. A Water Inspector is to be appointed.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Inspector reports the ventilation of North Street sewer now good. Plans for “better disposal of the sewerage” of Taunton Road district and Salmon Parade awaiting Local Government Board sanction. w.c.’s found defective replaced by proper pan and efficient flushing arrangements.

SCAVENGING.—No mention.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notification Act has worked well and without friction. Notifications, 31, viz. :—Scarlet Fever, 6; Typhoid Fever, 8; Erysipelas, 17.

Typhoid cases were all in Dunwear, and Medical Officer says, “should really be considered as belonging to the Rural and not the Urban District.”

Zymotic deaths, 4, viz. :—Scarlatina, 1; Typhoid Fever, 1; Diarrhœa, 2.

Infantile mortality diminishing; 16 deaths due to Injury; 15 to Phthisis; 34 to Lung Diseases; 22 to Heart Disease.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES’ HOSPITAL.—At the Docks. Kept in an efficient state and ready for immediate use.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No mention of apparatus. Medical Officer has satisfied himself that due precautions were being taken to prevent spread of disease in notified cases.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—No mention.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES.—Inspected. Private Slaughter-houses still cause of continual complaint, many are not fit for the purpose.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES’ REPORT.—Appended. 515 notices received attention; 117 nuisances abated; house-to-house inspection continues; condition of court property improved, but much remains to be done; 4 cases of overcrowding abated. Flooding of Taunton Road, Hamp Ward, etc. under consideration by Council; it is hoped remedial steps will soon be taken.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—Houses in Gould’s Buildings made habitable under Court’s order; repairs only temporary; houses fast falling back to bad condition.

BYE-LAWS.—New Bye-Laws awaiting Local Government Board sanction ; entire scope not mentioned, but they deal with Slaughter-houses.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.—29 samples submitted to Analyst, all but one of milk were pure ; 4 consisted of fish which were destroyed as “ unfit.”

PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY.—Number of vessels entering port for trading purposes, 2,398 ; tonnage, 150,178. Systematic inspection of vessels carried out ; their sanitary condition is generally good ; no infectious case reported. In 5 cases dirty water casks were dealt with ; in 12 cases sanitary arrangements were imperfect, and in many there was imperfect ventilation ; these conditions were rectified. Seven deaths of sailors registered, viz.:—Gangrene of Toes, 1 ; Cirrhosis of Liver, 1 ; Phthisis, 1 ; Heart Disease, 2 ; Accident, 1 ; Senile Decay, 1.

1894.

BURNHAM.

URBAN.

AREA, 656 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. F. C. BERRY.

POPULATION, 2,360 (census 1891) ; 2,500 (estimated to middle 1894).

GEOLOGY.

OCCUPATION.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . . .	17·2 per 1000 living.	19·0.	21·5.	23·2.	15.
DEATH RATE . . .	16·8 „ „	9·5.	9·7.	16·8.	12·3.
ZYMOTIC RATE . .	0·0 „ „	0·0.	0·4.	0·0.	0·7.
INFANT MORTALITY	93·02 per 1000 births.	43.	39·2.	37·0.	102·5.

WATER SUPPLY.—Has been abundant and of excellent quality throughout the year.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Drainage system regularly inspected by Medical Officer and Surveyor. Surveyor reports all sewers and works flushed and cleansed ; sewers disinfected during summer months ; general drainage and house connections tested and inspected before covering in ; 14 w.c.'s (old) provided with flush tanks ; some soil pipes removed to outside and ventilated ; sink connections attended to. Medical Officer comments on flooding of houses in south end of town by sewage from sewer overcharged with surface water. This is rather a frequent occurrence, and is condemned as dangerous to health by causing dampness of houses, sewage deposit in them, and extra pressure on house traps connected to the sewer, even where those houses are not flooded ; Surveyor's plan for remedying this condition approved by Medical Officer.

SCAVENGING.—No mention.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notifications, 7, viz.:—Scarlatina, 5 ; Diphtheria, 2.

Scarlet Fever cases all sporadic and isolated, not epidemic ; infection probably carried over from last year's cases.

Diphtheria:—one case, that of a visitor infected before arrival ; the cause of the other was not traced.

Influenza, prevalent early in year, caused 3 deaths.

No death from any Zymotic disease.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES' HOSPITAL.—None. Its absence lamented by Medical Officer as he is not in position to cope with an epidemic without it. He suggests that perhaps use might be made of Lord Thring's Isolation Hospital Act, 1893, to form a combined hospital district.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—Apparently no apparatus. Houses fumigated after infectious disease.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—No mention.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES, COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—Slaughter-houses periodically inspected, and notices to abate nuisances served where required.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Appended. Flushing cisterns to w.c.'s (new and old), 30; notices, formal and informal, 36; choked sewers and drains, 43; rooms disinfected, 5.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—No mention.

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

1894.

CHARD.

URBAN.

M.O.H., Dr. G. BARNES.

AREA, 403 acres.

POPULATION, 4,315 (estimated to middle 1894).

GEOLOGY.

OCCUPATION.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . . .	25·2 per 1000 living.	27·3.	32·2.	26·0.	27·1.
DEATH RATE . . .	18·7 „ „	16·6.	19·8.	16·4.	12·4.
ZYMOTIC RATE . . .	1·6 „ „	3·8.	0·7.	0·3.	0·0.
INFANT MORTALITY	155·9 per 1000 births.	128·2.	120·4.	89·5.	44·0.

WATER SUPPLY.—The Engineer consulted presented plans for supplying every part of district with water, but the initial and annual cost caused plan to remain in abeyance. Medical Officer repeats the matter will have to be dealt with to afford supply to houses now building, and to replace old wells which are being closed. Medical Officer points out the dangers of pollution, often from a long distance, to which well waters are subject: is apparently desirous of doing away with supply from wells and substituting a public supply.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—No complaint as to effluent from sewage farm has been this year received. Area of land for purification small and probably too limited in time of rain. “How to provide more efficient purification either by acquiring more land near the present works for irrigation, building larger

tanks, or carrying the sewage on to fresh ground beyond the reservoir is a matter requiring grave consideration."

SCAVENGING.—Cart goes round borough to collect house refuse and ashes every Saturday, many ashpits no longer required have been abolished. The people are making freer use of the cart for refuse disposal.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Cases notified: Scarlatina, 44; Diphtheria, 2; Erysipelas, 6; Puerperal Fever, 2. There were 3 deaths from Scarlatina, 2 from Measles, 1 from Diphtheria, 1 from Diarrhœa, 2 from Puerperal Fever, 1 from Erysipelas and 3 from Influenza. The two Diphtheria cases were in same house, the water supply of which was found polluted. Scarlatina epidemic during first three quarters of year, schools closed; Medical Officer regards school attendance as large factor in spread of infection, and complains of school attendance officers forcing children already sick or sickening to go to school, unless medically certified as unfit. A man was prosecuted and fined 10s. and costs for taking his child to his house at Combe St. Nicholas while suffering from Scarlatina; an outbreak of Scarlatina followed at Combe, and the schools had to be closed.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—Medical Officer advises that a "suitable small house should be made available for the isolation of fresh cases of an infectious disease where the home arrangements do not permit of it," and points out the saving in worry, expense, suffering and death, its provision might procure.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No means at present available; Medical Officer suggests that the hospital house, when provided, might be used for this purpose.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—The 18 cowsheds regularly inspected and kept fairly clean.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—No common lodging-house. Bakehouses and slaughter-houses inspected and limewashed every quarter.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Appended. Nuisances abated, 96. Overcrowding cases, 6. General nuisances recorded as attended to.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—That part of the borough acquired in 1892 (Old Town) referred to as largely coming under the head of property unfit for habitation on account of dilapidations of walls, floors, and roofs, absence of rain spouting leading to dampness; defective light and ventilation; insanitary surroundings such as privies and cesspits, and buildings for cows, pigs, fowls and horses, badly drained and foul. Remedies suggested:—1, prompt removal of refuse heaps, etc.; 2, provision of proper rain shutting to all houses; 3, compel owners to keep property in repair or else close it; 4, provision of efficient ventilation in all new houses; 5, registration of all buildings used for cows, horses or other animals.

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

1894.

CLEVEDON.

URBAN.

M.O.H., Dr. J. B. COUMBE,

(appointed *pro tem.*, Nov., 1894).

AREA, 3,027 acres.

POPULATION, 5,412 (census 1891). 5,600 (estimated to middle 1894).

GEOLOGY,

OCCUPATION,—Private. It being a Health Resort a large number of householders let lodgings.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . . .	14·28 per 1000 living.	21·0.	14·9.	20.	18·3.
DEATH RATE . . .	13·57 " "	14·0.	16·8.	20·5.	12·4.
ZYMOTIC RATE . . .	0·89 " "	0·5.	0·9.	2·2.	0·5.
INFANT MORTALITY	125 per 1000 births.	105.	111.	108.	84·9.

WATER SUPPLY.—Public supply, excellent, high pressure and continuous. Several samples from private sources condemned and public supply substituted.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Public sewers kept flushed by 20 Fields' automatic flush tanks and 5 flushing hatches in river. New sewer laid in All Saints' Lane; portion of Copse Road sewer relaid.

SCAVENGING.—General scavenging of roads reported good; the refuse of large number of houses regularly removed: advised that many private ashpits be taken in hand by Council.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Cases notified:—Scarlatina, 10; Diphtheria, 2; Membranous Croup, 1; Enteric Fever, 3; Erysipelas, 1.

Slight epidemic of Measles in June, no death. Several cases of Scarlet Fever in early autumn, one death. Typhoid Fever caused 2 deaths, Diphtheria 1, Membranous Croup 1, and Erysipelas 1. Nearly half the general mortality was in persons over 65.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—Under serious consideration; many communications have been sent to Local Government Board on the subject.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—“Disinfection regularly carried out after all notified cases.”

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—“Kept in clean condition.”

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—Slaughter-houses inspected, drains flushed, premises regularly cleansed. Offal tank to be abolished and galvanised tank on wheels substituted.

Only mention of a common lodging-house is to effect that the Scarlet Fever death occurred in one.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Medical Officer says “Incorporated.” 9 new drains laid, 32 new w.c.'s fixed in place of defective ones, 9 soil pipes ventilated, and 5 soil pipes removed from inside buildings. Various defects remedied, numbering 121.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—No mention.

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

SCHOOLS.—Public schools inspected. Sanitary arrangements of National Schools made good, drains relaid, ventilated, and 6 new w.c.'s fixed.

1894.

FROME.

URBAN.

AREA, 731 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. F. PARSONS.

POPULATION, 9,613 (census 1891); estimated at same figure for 1894.

GEOLOGY.

OCCUPATION.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE .	24·34 per 1000 living.	23·6.	24·5.	26·8.	28·3.
DEATH RATE .	16·33 „ „	20·2.	19·8.	19·5.	19·6.
ZYMOTIC RATE .	0·52 „ „	1·2.	1·2.	0·5.	0·5.
INFANT MORTALITY	102·56 per 1000 births.	136·5.	93·2.	124.	150.

WATER SUPPLY.—The town supply has been constant and abundant throughout the year; the average daily consumption for all purposes has been about 17 gallons per head. 22 samples from various wells examined, 20 were bad and 2 fair, though inferior to town supply. Medical Officer regrets “that objections are raised to supplying every house from the town mains,” and points out that all wells and springs in the borough must necessarily vary in quality from time to time, and may at any moment become a source of disease. In some cases where well waters were found impure the owners were allowed simply to clean wells; this is commented on as a temporary and unsatisfactory measure. St. John’s churchyard spring objected to as source of supply, as it is open to contamination by the churchyard and by sewage. This year and previous years cases of Enteric Fever have arisen in houses supplied by it. Samples of water from each house supplied by it examined this year; they varied considerably, but all were very inferior to town supply, which was recommended to be laid on.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—The new methods of flushing and disinfecting sewers largely prevented odours; occasional complaints made of offensive street gratings. Stench from sewage works was a cause of complaint only in month of June. Inspector reports pan closets more regularly flushed, and that this and the adoption of method of working sewage tanks advised by the Local Government Board Inspector have prevented nuisance from street gratings and sewage works. 50 defective drains remedied. An additional public urinal erected and all urinals kept clean by automatic flushes. Inspector notes much waste of town water by inferior or defective flush cisterns. A new sewer has been laid in Nunney Road. also in the Butts Road.

SCAVENGING.—“The scavenging of the town is well carried out, the method adopted proving generally satisfactory.”

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—60 notifications, viz.: Scarlatina, 18; Diphtheria, 21; Enteric Fever, 1; Erysipelas, 20. Scarlatina has greatly diminished to that in 1893; from

end of June district was practically free, only 4 cases in last six months; Medical Officer wishes parents would at once send for doctor in these cases. In one case a child continued at school till sent home peeling. Diphtheria was not epidemic, but sporadic; still much more common than usual—the cases generally are confined to one house, usually where cows are kept, but not so this year. One case occurred in early part of year, but in November and December 20 cases were notified in 11 separate houses. No direct infection between families noticed, only between members of same family. There was no community of school attendance or water supply; disease was of mild type, only 2 deaths: every precaution taken to prevent spread. The Enteric Fever case was connected with water of poor quality from spring under churchyard, and otherwise open to pollution. Whooping Cough and Measles have not been prevalent; a few cases of each were heard of; Whooping Cough caused one death. 2 deaths due to Diphtheria; 2 to Diarrhœa; 1 to Whooping Cough. The Influenza epidemic of end of 1893 continued in first part of 1894, 3 deaths directly ascribed to it. Medical Officer believes that indirectly it caused many more, as one-third the total number of deaths in the year were in the first quarter.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—Yes. Four cases treated but the admission of these in two instances checked a possible epidemic. Separate mortuary built. When the promised additional ward is completed “we shall be adequately equipped for dealing with initial cases of infectious disease.” Management and nursing reported “admirable.”

DISINFECTION MEANS.—The room at Hospital formerly used as Mortuary now available for disinfection by moist heat and disinfectants. Inspector reports supply of disinfectants and fumigation carried out under Medical Officer's directions.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—Visited by Inspector; satisfactorily kept.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES. — Bakehouses inspected. Common lodging-houses under the Police who report them clean, well-ventilated, and properly conducted. Slaughter-houses inspected and, except in one case, in good order. Good water supply to all; limewashing seen to.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Appended and printed. Records systematic house-to-house inspection and general nuisance work. 7 cases of over-crowding abated. Infectious cases attended to, etc.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—Eight dwellings unfit owing to dilapidation reported; 7 repaired and made fit, one closed. Two lots of ruinous buildings pulled down for safety. Medical Officer records advising closure of two houses for insanitary conditions: he comments favourably on the better class of artisan's dwellings now being erected.

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

Trades. Tallow-melting Works and Tannery reported free from nuisance.

1894.

GLASTONBURY.

URBAN.

AREA, 5,000 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. A. BLAKISTON.

POPULATION, 4,119 (census 1891). Estimated at same figure for 1894.

GEOLOGY.—Mostly clay soil; lower parts of borough bordering on the peat are damp.

OCCUPATION.—Partly manufacturing, partly agricultural.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE .	23·30 per 1000 living.	26·2	30·8.	31·0.	22·3.
DEATH RATE .	14·56 " "	17·7	12·1.	14·3.	17·7.
ZYMOTIC RATE .	0·48 " "	1·4	0·4.	0·7.	1·6.
INFANT MORTALITY	145·8 per 1000 births.	120·3	55·1.	78.	132·5.

WATER SUPPLY.—Supply during year abundant and of excellent quality. One private supply examined and found polluted; the town water was substituted.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Sewage farm works well and no inconvenience was felt from its being under water during the floods. Want of proper drainage at Edgarley and Havyatt remedied by system of earth closets. House drains and ejects repaired, 35; privies turned to earth closets and new closets, 19; old closets repaired, 22. Attention called to want of proper ejects to 8 houses in Bere Lane; slops at present thrown on street or into gutter.

SCAVENGING.—Scavenging done and house refuse removed by authority. Refuse is mostly burnt at some distance from town.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notification Act "still found of great service." Cases notified: Scarlatina, 7; Enteric Fever, 1; Erysipelas, 8. Influenza epidemic in first quarter, and directly or indirectly caused several deaths: one-half the total number of deaths were in first quarter. Medical Officer refers to reports made at the time as to origin of the Scarlet Fever and Enteric Fever cases. Whooping Cough caused 2 deaths, and Erysipelas 1. Medical Officer refers to high infant mortality rate as showing ignorance of mothers with regard to proper feeding, clothing, cleanliness, etc., required by infants. A prosecution made for exposure of patient while desquamating after Scarlet Fever, and conviction obtained.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—None. Suitable site is being sought. Medical Officer advises that the provision should be pushed forward: "the want of proper accommodation has been keenly felt."

DISINFECTION MEANS.—Advised that proper apparatus be provided at the Hospital.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—10 milkshops and 9 cowsheds registered; 19 inspections made. Most of the purveyors take milk direct from cows to customers (after straining), only 4 take any to a shop. Cowsheds, as last year, in very bad condition; new bye-laws, just passed, will, it is hoped, prove useful in remedying defects.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—Slaughter-houses, 42 inspections; premises in better condition, but room for much improvement. The new bye-laws should prove useful. Bakehouses, 12 inspections; all but 2 fairly clean and frequently whitewashed. More speedy removal of refuse advised.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Included. Houses and premises inspected, 265; written and verbal notices, 125; houses over-crowded, 19; large amount of general work recorded.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—House-to-house inspection made in The Wall, North-load Bridge, Dyehouse Lane, Landmead Cottages, Hill Head, The Vineyards, and Bere Lane. 121 houses visited, 3 were unfit for habitation; in 5 structural repairs needed; 19 cases of over-crowding found, 8 since abated, the others stand over.

BYE-LAWS.—Reference made to new bye-laws; scope not mentioned, except that they apply to Dairies, etc., and to Slaughter-houses.

Market. Medical Officer hopes that steps will shortly be taken to remove the fortnightly market out of the streets.

1894.

MIDSOMER NORTON.

URBAN.

AREA, 3,956 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. A. H. WHICHER.

POPULATION, 5,053 (census 1891). 5,422 (estimated to middle 1894).

GEOLOGY.

OCCUPATION.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . . .	33.93 per 1000 living.	34.1.	37.0.	37.4.	39.
DEATH RATE . . .	16.04 " "	14.3.	14.5.	14.2.	15.
ZYMOTIC RATE . .	0.92 " "	1.8.	0.76.	0.6.	1.3.
INFANT MORTALITY	163.04 per 1000 births.	109.2.	139.	89.8.	125.

WATER SUPPLY.—Clandown will shortly be supplied with water from the Mendips by the Radstock authority, supplying a long-felt need. Inspector reports an adequate supply available throughout year, except at Clandown.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—The Welton sewage question still under consideration, and in process of settlement. The periodic cleansing of Welton tanks and filter beds and flushing of sewers received attention. Disinfectants used in Clandown stream during summer. Clandown sewerage works practically complete, will be in use in few months. Inspector reports extension of sewerage system to the Rockfurnal district, and abolition of earth closet system there; similar improvement at Rock Road required. Three new ventilation shafts erected on old sewers during year with good results.

SCAVENGING.—No mention.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—No cases of Scarlet Fever reported in first half year, but Medical Officer believes a few unreported cases occurred, and caused those in second half, viz., 16; there was no death. One case only of Diphtheria notified, and proved to be ulcerated throat simply. A mild epidemic of Whooping Cough prevailed during first half of year; no death said to have occurred, but 2 are given in Table A. Influenza was “plentiful, but has never amounted to a general epidemic.” Two cases of Typhoid Fever occurred in one house at Clandown.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—“A place for the isolation of our infectious cases has been decided upon.”

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No mention.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—Inspector reports these kept in good condition, and no cause of complaint arose.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—No common lodging-houses. Slaughter-houses, 3 licensed, kept in good condition. Bakehouses reported in good condition by Inspector.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES’ REPORT.—Appended and printed. Mentions routine and special inspection. Many informal notices complied with, and only 5 statutory notices required. Condition of piggeries generally unsatisfactory; rules for their conduct required and advised.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—3 houses at Clandown condemned, and the necessary improvements to render them sanitary were carried out.

BYE-LAWS.—New Bye-laws under the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, approved by Local Government Board, and now in force.

NOTIFICATION ACT.—Cases notified: Scarlatina, 16; Typhoid Fever, 2; Diphtheria, 1; Erysipelas, 5.

1894.

MINEHEAD.*URBAN.*

AREA, 3,970 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. J. GRATTAN WILSON.

POPULATION, 2,070 (census 1891). 2,290 (estimated to middle 1894).

GEOLOGY.

OCCUPATION.

	1894.	1893.	1892.
BIRTH RATE . . .	25·3 per 1000 living.	25·3.	30·4.
DEATH RATE . . .	18·7 “ “	12·0.	14·4.
ZYMOTIC RATE . . .	0·0 “ “	4·0.	0·0.
INFANT MORTALITY	137·9 per 1000 births.	87·7.	95·2.

WATER SUPPLY.—Good throughout year, both in quantity and quality. The new supply from Alcombe available for lower parts of town. In a dry season there would still be need of an additional supply by the principal Water Company.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Ownership of sewers decided against Authority this year, but the owner has maintained their efficiency, and they have been flushed. In one case sewer was opened, cleaned, relaid, and has since been satisfactory. A Smoke Tester for drains purchased this year. The anomaly of a 9-inch drain opening into 6-inch sewer—which has led to flooding of gardens with sewage—pointed out, and its replacement advised. Many closets have been furnished with water flush. The abolition of some open privies in Bampton Street and Higher Town strongly advised.

SCAVENGING.—Streets satisfactorily cleansed by contract. Contract made this year for removal of refuse twice a week.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Serious epidemic of Influenza at beginning of year, causing 14 deaths. One case of fatal Erysipelas, after injury, notified. 3 cases of Diphtheria occurred: the first was an imported case, and gave rise to two others in same house; minor sanitary defects in that house rectified. 3 cases of mild Scarlet Fever notified, cause not ascertained; no death. One case of Puerperal Fever notified.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—None available. Provision strongly advised.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No disinfectors. Provision strongly advised.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—“Still no regular inspection.”

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—Slaughter-houses kept under close supervision, and “whilst being tolerable are never perfectly satisfactory.”

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES’ REPORT.—Appended. Records details of inspections, and of nuisances such as bad drains, filthy slaughter-houses, pigs and fowls badly kept, being dealt with.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—No special mention of action under this Act. Many old houses reported as pulled down, and one case of over-crowding abated.

BYE-LAWS.—Building Bye-laws in force.

1894.

PORTISHEAD.

URBAN.

AREA, 976 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. W. MONCKTON.

POPULATION, 2,500 (census, 1891). 2,600 estimated to middle 1894.

GEOLOGY,

OCCUPATION,

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . .	21.1 per 1000 living.	29.2.	District not formed till 1893.		
DEATH RATE . .	15.7 ” ”	14.6.			
ZYMOTIC RATE . .	0.38 ” ”	3.8.			
INFANT MORTALITY	200.0 per 1000 births.	92.			

WATER SUPPLY.—Said to be good; increased use made of Company’s supply. One tank contaminated by sewage reported as remedied.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Reported as “receiving much attention from Council.”

SCAVENGING.—Undertaken by Council. Weekly removal systematic. Streets watered in summer as required.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notification in force since 1888. Has “been renewed,” but no case notified, nor has any infectious case come to Medical Officer’s knowledge. One death from Whooping Cough given in Table A.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—None.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No mention.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—Inspected and found satisfactory.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—No mention.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES’ REPORT.—Not appended.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—No mention.

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

1894.

RADSTOCK.*URBAN.*

AREA, 1,014 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. WORGER.

POPULATION, 3,438 (census 1891). 3,450 (estimated to middle 1894).

GEOLOGY.—Lias formation on New Red Sandstone.

OCCUPATION.—Chiefly coal-mining, wagon works, saw mills, farming, etc.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE .	31·5 per 1000 living.	38.	29.	34.	33·5.
DEATH RATE .	13·3 „ „	18·6.	15·4.	12·7.	19·5.
ZYMOTIC RATE .	1·4 „ „	2·9.	0·5.	0·5.	1·3.
INFANT MORTALITY	110 per 1000 births.	181.	190.	59.	155·3.

WATER SUPPLY.—Again deficient during summer in those parts mentioned in 1893 Report, and at times absent. The Board’s scheme for water supply is now finished so far that the mains are now being laid through the town, and are expected to be in full force by the end of March; a plentiful supply will then be available to the whole district. The bottom well at Foss Buildings closed in July.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—The sectional drainage system reported as working well, and a Vacuum Sewage Extractor (purchased this year) has done away with much of the nuisance of emptying the tanks. In a Report on a Report of the County Council’s Surveyor the Medical Officer says that Report is a very fair and accurate description of our present drainage system, but that till the Clandown and Midsomer Norton sewage is dealt with it is not possible to say to what extent Radstock pollutes the brook. The houses in centre of town drain direct to the brook. The water supply, when finished will, by increasing the bulk of sewage to be dealt with, lead to the overflow from sewage tanks being fouler, owing to less perfect subsidence in the tanks. The Medical Officer sees no other way out of difficulty than by adopting County Council Surveyor’s recommendations, or by increasing size of tanks and providing filters. The latter course will probably

fail in years to come, and will not provide for the drains emptying direct into the brook. During July the town drains were flushed with carbolised lime.

SCAVENGING.—No mention.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—There has been no epidemic. There were a few scattered Influenza cases in January, 5 cases of Membranous Croup in the first quarter, a few cases of Measles in second quarter, and Whooping Cough in second and third quarters. No Scarlet Fever notified; no Typhoid Fever notified. Measles caused 2 deaths, Membranous Croup 2, and Whooping Cough 1. Notification Act in force.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—Has not been required during the year, but has been kept ready for use and in state of efficiency. (Westfield Hospital.)

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No mention.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—No mention.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—The market inspected weekly. On 1st December 220 pieces of beef and mutton were seized and condemned; action was taken, and the vendor was heavily fined.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Not appended. Medical Officer mentions many cases of action to remedy sanitary defects, such as cleansing ashpits, drains, etc.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.—No special mention of action under this Act, but Medical Officer records that many old cottages have been repaired and partially rebuilt.

BYE-LAWS.—Said to be "in operation."

Heavy rains at end of October and beginning of November culminated in bad floods on 12th and 14th November, causing much inconvenience and distress, and causing many sore throats.

In consequence of an epidemic of swine fever in October many pigs were buried in different parts of the district. The Medical Officer suggests that some other means of disposing of the carcasses be adopted, as he fears nuisance from such numbers buried in one hole.

1894.

SHEPTON MALLET.

URBAN.

AREA, 3,825 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. J. T. HYATT.

POPULATION, 5,500 (census 1891); estimated 5,501 for 1894.

GEOLOGY,

OCCUPATION.—Manufactures employing labour in factories and workshops are:—breweries, silk-weaving, crape-weaving, mineral water works, printing, and quarrying.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . .	31·6 per 1000 living.	29·0.	31·8.	38·2.	33·1.
DEATH RATE . .	20·7 " "	17·4.	19·0.	15·7.	15·1.
ZYMOTIC RATE .	3·27 " "	1·6.	0·54.	0·4.	0·5.
INFANT MORTALITY	91·9 per 1000 births.	87·5.	102·8.	100.	86·2.

WATER SUPPLY.—The town is supplied with water from springs under the Mendips by Shepton Mallet Water Company; the water is good and sufficient. The hamlet of Downside and village of Oakhill have now a good supply of water. It is not at present feasible to carry the mains to the hamlet of Darshill.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—The town is pipe-drained throughout; sewage treated on 18 acres of land at Darshill. An action against authority for polluting a stream with sewage effluent ended in an injunction, in consequence of which certain works are being carried out, which it is hoped will prevent further complaint. That part of Oakhill village in this district is sewered, and the sewage (chemical treatment) works carried on by the Oakhill Brewery Company without complaint. Subsoil water is making its way into the sewers. A large number of closets without flush are connected to sewer: "This should be remedied as soon as possible." Inspector reports sewers in good order, flushed and manholes disinfected; has instructions to remedy defects allowing subsoil water to enter sewers; 28 new connections made, including a manufactory, new Public Offices, and H.M. Prison. New system of treating sewage by precipitation, and treatment of effluent on land (osier beds 5 acres, rye grass and mangolds 8 acres) will be begun in March. Nearly all buildings and all the manufactories connected to sewer; a few houses are under notice to connect.

SCAVENGING.—As in 1893, collection by authority made twice a week.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Cases notified, 81, viz.: Smallpox, 3; Scarlet Fever, 59; Enteric Fever, 9; Erysipelas, 5. Text of report says 5 cases of Smallpox were reported during the first quarter, and treated at Infectious Hospital; 4 deaths due to Smallpox. Typhoid Fever occurred in H.M. Prison in second quarter; disease ceased when town water supply was adopted; there were five deaths from this disease. Scarlatina and Measles both prevalent during the year, causing 1 and 3 deaths respectively. High Zymotic Rate accounted for by continuance of 1893 Smallpox epidemic and the Typhoid Fever at H.M. Prison. Inspector mentions that the closure of the Kilver Street Schools for three weeks made a marked decrease in number of Scarlatina and Measles cases.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—Yes; in grounds of Shepton Mallet Workhouse. Cases treated, 5.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—Small steam chamber at Workhouse.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—The two dairies frequently inspected, condition clean. 14 milksellers in district; no milk kept on premises.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—Slaughter-houses: number registered, 7; visited frequently; condition clean. Bakehouses: number in district, 8; visited frequently; condition clean. No registered Common Lodging-House; but Inspector reports that he has visited "the lodging-house" during the year, found it clean and sanitary arrangements good, "it can therefore now be registered."

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Appended. Records inspections, etc., also fumigation of infected houses. Details of sewers and sewage works given.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—No complaint received; no house unfit for habitation.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT.—No case applicable in district. Conveniences at factories sufficient.

BYE-LAWS.—Model Bye-laws for cleansing footways, removal of house refuse, nuisances from snow, keeping of animals, common lodging-houses, erection of new buildings, and for slaughter-houses are in force.

ACTS IN FORCE.—Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890; Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890, adopted in 1893; Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, adopted in 1891.

VACCINATION.—Carefully attended to.

Medical Officer reports inspection of whole district twice during the year and at intervals as required.

1894.

STREET.

URBAN.

AREA, 2,918 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. G. EGLINTON.

POPULATION, 3,535 (census 1891), 3,842 (estimated to middle 1894).

GEOLOGY.—Lower lias, consisting of alternating beds of limestones, clays, and marls.

OCCUPATION.—Principally shoemaking. Agricultural. Limestone quarries.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE .	30·9 per 1000 living.	33·1.	35·4.	38·2.	33·1.
DEATH RATE .	9·8 „ „	17·3.	15·3.	15·7.	15·1.
ZYMOTIC RATE .	0·5 „ „	0·5.	0·8.	0·4.	0·5.
INFANT MORTALITY	126·05 per 1000 births.	137.	147·2.	100.	86·2.

WATER SUPPLY.—Plentiful supply in the wells during the year. Supply from Poly Hole well again constant, supplying both upper and lower parts of village with good water. Samples of water from Glaston Road and Park Close examined; the first was totally unfit for domestic use. A well in Ford (?) Stream Road previously closed was found to be reopened, and its closure was again enforced.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Sewers periodically flushed; the heavy rain has assisted. The disposal of the sewage by irrigation is successful. An extension of the sewer at West End has been made. The open tank in High Street opposite the factory is being closed. House-to-house inspection made with Inspector, and marked improvement in sanitary arrangements noted in many parts. Several new closets flushed, made, and connected to sewer. Directions for dealing with cases requiring attention given. Some cesspools left too long without cleansing; Medical Officer advises conformity to the Bye-laws in these cases.

SCAVENGING.—Supervision exercised over the ash and refuse heaps, and their early removal directed.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Influenza prevalent in first and fourth quarters, of mild type. Lung diseases were prevalent about same periods, but only caused 4 deaths. 5 cases of Scarlet Fever heard of, one in January, one in February, and 3 in May; no death. Mumps were epidemic in March and April. Severe epidemic of Measles in September, October, and November, causing 2 deaths. Two severe cases of Erysipelas came to Medical Officer's knowledge and one case of Enteric Fever; the fever was contracted out of the district.

NOTIFICATION ACT.—Not in force; adoption recommended.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—None.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No mention.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS. — Visited and inspected with Inspector of Nuisances.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES. — Slaughter-houses inspected periodically with Inspector, and regularly limewashed. Bakehouses opened since 1875 visited and inspected with Inspector.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Appended in tabular form. Complaints received, 43; houses and premises inspected, 607; revisits, 400; orders for amendments, 60; houses disinfected, 10; privies, w.c.'s, etc., cleansed and trapped, 54; houses newly connected to sewer, 14; smoke nuisance abated, 1; overcrowding abated, 3; well closed, 1. General nuisance work recorded.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—The "wooden houses" in Glaston Road visited, and existing insanitary conditions reported; orders for their amendment made.

BYE-LAWS.—Apparently for cleansing cesspools.

1894.

TAUNTON.

URBAN.

AREA, 1,203 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. H. J. ALFORD.

POPULATION, 18,026 (census 1891); 18,449 (estimated to middle 1894).

GEOLOGY.

OCCUPATION.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . .	27·4 per 1000 living.	30·5.	25·5.	38·8.	26·9.
DEATH RATE . .	16·0 „ „	19·1.	19·7.	22·1.	18·5.
ZYMOTIC RATE . .	0·7 „ „	3·3.	0·8.	0·6.	2·5.
INFANT MORTALITY	117 per 1000 births.	157.	146·2.	111.	141.

WATER SUPPLY.—The new reservoir completed and opened in February, substituting a constant for an intermittent supply; quality of water, good and soft. Medical Officer warns against using same cistern to supply drinking water and flush w.c.; drinking water to be drawn direct from main. All wells which came under notice were analysed; all the waters were polluted and a pure supply was substituted. Medical Officer says, "It may be regarded as a certainty that no well water in the

town can be drank with impunity." 12 wells closed, and 14 houses thus supplied now have Company's water. 88 cisterns cleansed, repaired, or covered.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Mr. Naylor's Report to the County Council showed the effluent from Sewage Works not to be as good as it ought to be. Medical Officer points out that a simple precipitation process will not give pure effluent, and that to render effluent innocuous it must be applied to land: this will sooner or later have to be done. Town drainage has received great attention: amount of faulty drain work, little dreamed of, was revealed by smoke test, due either to bad workmanship at first, to settlement of soil, or to reckless repair—especially the latter: choked drains were found to have been uncovered, a hole knocked in them for removal of block, and then a slate was put over hole and soil filled in. Some old disused sewers were discovered, to which some houses still drained; these sewers were filled in and houses connected to the modern sewers. 335 smoke tests revealed faults in 302 cases.

SCAVENGING.—Presumably as in 1893. Dust removal communications received and attended to, 642.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notifications, 203, viz: Scarlet Fever, 149; Diphtheria, 26; Membranous Croup, 1; Enteric Fever, 10; Puerperal Fever, 1; Erysipelas, 16. Influenza prevalent early in year, causing high mortality from Lung Diseases. Scarlet Fever prevailed through year; type was mild, and this helped persistence of the disease, as some cases were so slight as to escape observation and continue at school: 14 cases occurred in the Taunton and Somerset Hospital, and 5 in Workhouse. Eighteen of the Diphtheria cases were in St. Mary's District, and 8 in St. James'; type generally mild, a few malignant cases. Enteric Fever rather more frequent than of recent years; 3 cases were in St. Mary's and 7 in St. James' District. In all cases the use of impure water or an escape of sewer gas was found to have existed.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—Yes. 132 cases removed to Hospital, viz: Scarlet Fever, 111; Diphtheria, 15; Enteric Fever, 6. Two deaths from Scarlet Fever, 2 from Enteric Fever, and 1 from Diphtheria occurred in Hospital. (Report of Hospital attached.)

DISINFECTION MEANS.—Disinfecting chamber wearing out: advised that the new one when purchased be a Steam Disinfector. All houses, rooms, beds, bedding, clothes, etc., disinfected, free of cost.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—Periodically inspected. 45 visited and found in good condition.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—Bakehouses and Slaughter-houses well kept; inspected. A few Common Lodging-Houses well looked after, but not very satisfactory. Medical Officer considers a Public Abattoir should take the place of private Slaughter-houses.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Appended in tabular form. Complaints received, 91; number of inspections, 1,108; revisits, 346; orders issued for amendments, 187; houses cleansed, repaired, etc., 185; houses disinfected, 144; pollution of stream, 4; drain nuisances abated, 302; refuse accumulations and animals improperly kept, 72. Dairy, bakehouse, slaughter-house inspections recorded.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—

BYE-LAWS.—

1894.

WELLINGTON.

URBAN.

AREA, 5,295 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. J. MEREDITH.

POPULATION, 6,808 (census 1891); 7,039 (estimated to middle of 1894).

GEOLOGY.— } Summarised in last Report.
OCCUPATION.— }

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE .	26·0 per 1000 living.	29·7.	26.	27·8.	24·4.
DEATH RATE .	16·7 „ „	17·2.	15·5.	18·2.	21·9.
ZYMOTIC RATE .	0·85 „ „	1·1.	1·1.	1·4.	3·1.
INFANT MORTALITY	147 per 1000 births.	67·6.	98·3.	94.	128.

WATER SUPPLY.—“The water supply of the town has been plentiful and of good quality during the year.” Medical Officer has visited the hamlet of Wrangway several times in the course of the year, chiefly in reference to water supply, which is now of a satisfactory character.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Many nuisances arising from defective ejects rectified. Some closets erected without syphons emptying into a catchpit in a garden dealt with. No new work in connection with the sewerage beyond doing away with old and faulty drains and construction of some new ones.

SCAVENGING.—Presumably same arrangements as mentioned in 1893 Report; “the town scavenging has been efficiently done.”

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—18 notifications received, viz: 6 “alleged to be Scarlet Fever; but the disease was of an exceptional nature, and caused no anxiety.” 4 “were stated to be Typhoid Fever; after, however, making close inquiry, I became persuaded that the disease was not of the nature specified.” 5 were Diphtheria, 2 proved fatal; only 2 were associated with insanitary conditions. No notification since September.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—None.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—None.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—No mention.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—The Common Lodging-House was regularly visited. 2,423 used the tramp wards, but imported no disease.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Not appended. Medical Officer mentions nuisances arising from pig-keeping abated, also from fowls and other birds in an unclean state near dwellings. He adds that "the Sanitary Inspector's book has as usual been examined by me in preparing my report."

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—No mention.

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

METEOROLOGY.—A monthly report has been presented. 40 inches of rain fell during the year.

1894.

WELLS.

URBAN.

AREA, 720 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. H. W. LIVETT.

POPULATION, 4,822 (census 1891); estimated at 4,700 for 1894.

GEOLOGY.—Chiefly red marl, with beds of gravel, etc.; and towards the Mendip range Lias and Limestone.

OCCUPATION.—Agricultural, factory hands, etc.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE .	31·4 per 1000 living.	23·8.	29·1.	30·2.	27·6.
DEATH RATE .	13·40 " "	15·1.	15·5.	17·4.	18·3.
ZYMOTIC RATE .	0·42 " "	0·4.	0·2.	1·7.	0·4.
INFANT MORTALITY	54·0 per 1000 births.	89·2.	87·5.	91·0.	125·0.

WATER SUPPLY.—The great majority of houses are supplied by the Water Company; the number gradually increasing.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Drainage is on the whole improving year by year: house drains in several instances examined and cleansed. Extension of the Deanery sewer to be commenced forthwith. As to sewer ventilation—the surface gratings generally removed, only those at outskirts of city remain; but the one at top of New Street, the highest point of sewer complained of and a pipe ventilator suggested as required here. No complaint of pipe ventilators received since last report.

SCAVENGING.—No mention.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notifications:—Scarlatina, 43; Diphtheria, 2; Enteric Fever, 10; Measles, 51.

Scarlatina epidemic, first case probably imported, was not at first recognised and was followed by simultaneous cases in various parts of city. Spread attributed partly to cases not attended by medical man, and not notified. One man fined for sending child to school from infected house and infecting other children. In several cases concerts and other assemblies traced as sources of infection. No death from Scarlatina. Measles also epidemic but caused no death. 10 cases of Enteric Fever notified: 4 attributed to polluted water; 1 to imperfect drainage; the others uncertain. One case of Diphtheria occurred, removed to Hospital and recovered.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—Yes.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—Infected rooms fumigated and cleansed. Hot chamber constructed on Hospital premises.

DAIRIES.—Duly inspected by Medical Officer or Inspector and found satisfactory.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—Visits to 12 Slaughter-houses, 624; 48 notices to limewash served. Visits to 12 Bakehouses, 48. Common Lodging-houses regularly inspected and reported satisfactory.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Appended in tabular form. Visits on complaint or information, 369. Notices served, 108; improved or fresh water supply put in, 8; defective drains, 40; defective closets, 29; overcrowding cases, 8. General nuisance work recorded.

“In all cases of infectious disease reported to me I have at once visited and seen to arrangements made for the isolation of patients, and left printed notice for the use of proper precautions, supplied disinfectants where required, constantly visited the houses during illness, and at the proper time personally attended to the fumigating and cleansing of the infected rooms.”

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—Two insanitary houses reported and duly cleansed.

“The four houses out of repair, mentioned in my report of last year, remain untenanted.”

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

1894.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

URBAN.

AREA, 1,911 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. C. V. HITCHINS.

POPULATION, 15,864 (census 1891); 16,800 (estimated to middle 1894).

GEOLOGY.

OCCUPATION.

	1894.	On estimated population.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE . .	19·7		19·4.	19·1.	21·5.	19.
DEATH RATE . .	12·2		15·3.	16·2.	16·1.	15·6.
ZYMOTIC RATE . .	0·89		0·7.	2·0.	·03.	1·1.
INFANT MORTALITY	87·6		140·1.	158.	125.	137.
			per 1000 living.			
			,, ,,			
			,, ,,			
			per 1000 births.			

WATER SUPPLY.—Inspector reports 79 new connections to town supply. Notices to remedy water waste and leakages, 182. Samples of well water tested, 2.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Inspector reports 49 drains cleansed and repaired; 67 foul privies and closets cleansed; 98 closets furnished with sanitary pans; 62 sinks trapped outside; 76 smoke tests applied; 28 drains relaid; 27 soil pipes ventilated.

SCAVENGING.—No mention.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—54 notifications received, viz. :—Scarlatina, 45; Erysipelas, 6; Diphtheria, 2; Puerperal Fever, 1.

Scarlet Fever chiefly affected Christchurch and Emmanuel districts where three-quarters of the cases occurred. Many cases were imported into the town: disease of mild type with only one death. One of the Diphtheria cases was attributed to bad drains and defective ventilation: the other was imported in the person of a visitor. 6 deaths due to Diarrhœa, which was at no time prevalent: all deaths were at the extremes of life. Measles prevalent in July and August, chiefly in Christchurch and Emmanuel districts, caused 6 deaths. Only a few cases of Whooping Cough occurred in the first quarter; there were 2 deaths. No case of Typhoid Fever notified.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—Medical Officer alludes to a petition presented to authority by medical practitioners, pointing out the desirability of adding paying wards to the Isolation Hospital, and remedying other deficiencies. Sites for paying wards were in consequence inspected, but nothing done. Many needful alterations at the Hospital were, however, made, and the building and its furnishing brought nearer to modern requirements. A few improvements still needed, and Medical Officer points out a way in which paying wards could be provided by extending present Hospital. Rubbish heaps at back of Hospital require removal.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No mention.

DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.—12 inspected.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—Bakehouse inspections, 35; Common Lodging-house inspections, 12; Slaughter-house inspections, 22.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Appended in tabular form. House-to-house inspection continued, special reports made on 254 premises, and sanitary improvements carried out in 150 of them. 220 notices served: legal proceedings with convictions, 6; premises inspected, 891. Large amount of general nuisance work carried out. Rooms and premises fumigated, 37; cases of overcrowding abated, 3; workrooms inspected, 20.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—No mention.

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

1894.

WIVELISCOMBE.

URBAN.

AREA, 202 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. PRATT.

POPULATION, 1,428 (census 1891); estimated at same figure for 1894.

GEOLOGY.—New Red Sandstone (Bunter).

OCCUPATION.—Agricultural, and dependents; one brewery, employing about 60 hands.

	1894.		1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE	20·3	per 1000 living.	29·4.	23·8.	26·6.	18·4.
DEATH RATE	15·4	„ „	15·4.	11·9.	20·3.	14·7.
ZYMOTIC RATE	1·4	„ „	2·8.	0·0.	2·8.	0·0.
INFANT MORTALITY	137·9	per 1000 births.	47·6.	0·0.	26.	100.

WATER SUPPLY.—The new supply placed at authority's disposal by Mr. Hancock was drawn upon during drier months, was of much use and ample in quantity. Water furnished to town frequently examined and found of good character. The water from wells in North Street and White Horse yard continues of fair quality, but inferior to the public supply. The pump in Paradise Square mentioned in last Report as giving foul water, is still under padlock.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—Medical Officer reports many old drains relaid and defective arrangements remedied. In a block of houses at Court Place, drains were relaid, pits removed, closets connected to town system, and supplied with proper flush cisterns. New and properly constructed closets provided for the cottages in Paradise Square and Golden Lane. Objectionable tanks in Gas Lane replaced by improved appliances.

SCAVENGING.—A collecting cart for house refuse sent round at regular known intervals. Refuse heaps formerly common in many gardens now absent. Streets scavenged and watered in summer.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notification came into force May, 1893. Cases notified: Scarlatina, 2; Diphtheria, 1; Erysipelas, 1. The Scarlet Fever cases were early in year, one "due to direct, the other to remote, contagion." The Diphtheria case attributed to an overflowing and offensive tank near affected house: tank abolished and new closet connected to town sewer provided. The Erysipelas case was imported, the soil under house from which it came was soaked with offensive material. Some cases of Influenza at beginning and end of year. Chicken-pox appeared in Autumn. Whooping Cough attacked a large number of children causing 2 deaths. No case of Typhoid Fever, no death from Diarrhœa.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—None. No one yet found who, for retaining fee, would give room and services for such requirements. Enquiries on the subject will continue to be made.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No mention.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—Dairies and Cowsheds inspected, 5; kept clean and in good order.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—Slaughter-houses inspected, 2; Bakehouses inspected, 3. All in good order. No Common Lodging-house.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—None. Medical Officer reports more attention given to pigstyes, etc.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—"Dilapidations remain very much as when alluded to in last report.—The dangerous examples are boarded up, and if they could be replaced by new cottages on the same sites we should be able to close some of the older tenements which are open to objection." No case of overcrowding reported.

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

BOARD SCHOOLS inspected, and Medical Officer reports sanitary arrangements satisfactory. Sheds in play-grounds provided on Medical Officer's request, very useful as shelter from sun and rain, and during dinner hour.

CHURCHYARD.—Enlarged by half an acre during year, and efficiently drained.

1894.

YEOVIL.

URBAN.

AREA, 654 acres.

M.O.H., Dr. E. C. GARLAND.

POPULATION, 9,648 (census 1891); inhabited houses, 1,907 (census 1891).

GEOLOGY.—Upper and Middle Lias, Yeovil sands.

OCCUPATION.—Glove-making, foundries, breweries, tallow melting.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
BIRTH RATE.	23·63	29·0.	24·7.	27.	31·7.
DEATH RATE	16·48	16·3.	19·1.	20.	16.
ZYMOTIC RATE	0·93	1·0.	0·7.	3·4.	0·2.
INFANT MORTALITY	131·6	96.	121·3.	164.	104.

WATER SUPPLY.—“Satisfactory in quality and quantity.”

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—“Still receiving due consideration and attention.”

SCAVENGING.—Regularly attended to; streets watered.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE.—Notification Act not in force. Adoption strongly urged by Medical Officer; for his reasons for wishing its adoption *vide* Report, where they are set out forcibly. Whooping Cough prevalent, caused 8 deaths. Diarrhœa caused 1 death.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—Bow of Yeovil Isolation Hospital; not yet been used.

DISINFECTION MEANS.—No mention.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—Systematically visited.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, BAKEHOUSES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—Systematically visited.

A seizure of meat made in July. It was condemned by Justice, and the owner prosecuted and fined.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.—Included in Medical Officer's Report. Nuisances investigated, 129; notices to abate, 32; number of visits of inspection, 2,022.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES.—No mention.

BYE-LAWS.—No mention.

(A)

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1894, in the URBAN Sanitary Districts of Somersetshire, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. (Columns for Population and Births are in Table B.) (a)	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES AT SUBJOINED AGES.							(i)	MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.																						TOTAL
	At all ages. (b)	Under 1 year. (c)	1 and under 5. (d)	5 and under 15. (e)	15 and under 25. (f)	25 and under 65. (g)	65 and upwards. (h)		1 Smallpox.	2 Scarlatina.	3 Diphtheria.	4 Membranous Croup.	FEVERS.						10 Cholera.	11 Erysipelas.	12 Measles.	13 Whooping Cough.	14 Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	15 Rheumatic Fever.	16 Ague.	17 Phthisis.	18 Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	19 Heart Disease.	20 Injuries.	21 All Other Diseases.	
													5 Typhus.	6 Enteric or Typhoid.	7 Continued.	8 Relapsing.	9 Puerperal.														
1 BRIDGWATER	234	40	15	12	9	74	84	Under 5	2	1	20	...	8	24	55	
								5 upwds.	...	1	1	1	15	14	22	8	116	179	
2 BURNHAM.	42	4	5	1	1	18	13	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	2	3	9
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	7	1	18	33
3 CHARD.	81	17	9	5	19	9	22	Under 5	1	2	...	1	5	17	26	
								5 upwds.	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	7	5	9	...	28	55
4 CLEVEDON	76	10	4	4	2	26	30	Under 5	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	9	14
								5 upwds.	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	5	6	1	43	62
5 FROME	157	24	15	5	4	44	65	Under 5	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	7	...	3	24	39
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	12	12	2	79	115
6 GLASTONBURY	60	14	3	1	...	14	28	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	14	17
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	8	2	28	43
7 MIDSOMER NORTON . .	87	30	5	4	3	13	32	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	...	...	3	8	...	...	20	36
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	11	9	2	25	51
8 MINEHEAD	43	8	2	1	7	8	17	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	7	10
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	12	3	...	16	33
9 PORTISHEAD.	41	11	2	2	3	13	10	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	11	13
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	4	3	16	28
10 RADSTOCK	46	12	8	5	...	13	8	Under 5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	13	20
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	6	6	1	8	26
11 SHEPTON MALLET. . .	114	16	7	6	7	39	39	Under 5	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	1	...	...	1	5	...	...	9	23
								5 upwds.	3	...	1	...	...	5	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	10	8	7	1	54	91
12 STREET	38	15	4	...	1	10	8	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	13	19
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	2	1	10	19
13 TAUNTON.	337	59	26	11	11	109	121	Under 5	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3	...	...	...	18	...	3	55	85
								5 upwds.	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	...	31	37	30	4	142	262
14 WELLINGTON	118	26	12	6	8	35	31	Under 5	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	2	10	...	1	20	38	
								5 upwds.	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	13	11	9	2	43	80
15 WELLS	63	8	3	2	5	25	20	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	6	11
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	5	8	2	1	35	52
16 WESTON-SUPER-MARE	206	29	15	9	17	66	70	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	2	3	...	...	1	8	1	...	22	44	
								5 upwds.	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	20	25	25	3	84	162	
17 WIVELISCOMBE. . . .	22	4	1	2	...	7	8	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	6
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	4	...	7	16	
18 YEOVIL	159	30	12	8	9	51	49	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	1	9	1	...	26	44	
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	10	7	13	4	79	115	

(B)

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officers of Health, during the year 1894, in the URBAN Sanitary Districts of Somersetshire; classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.		Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5.	NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.													NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.															
	Census 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1894.			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
					Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus.	FEVERS.				Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	FEVERS.				Cholera.	Erysipelas.							
										Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.								Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.						Puerperal.			
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)																													
1 BRIDGWATER . . .	Not	given	...	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 BURNHAM	2,318	2,500	43	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	5	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3 CHARD	4,315	4,315	109	Under 5	...	14	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	6	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4 CLEVEDON	5,412	5,600	80	Under 5	...	5	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	5	1	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 FROME	9,613	9,613	234	Under 5	...	18	21	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6 GLASTONBURY . . .	4,119	4,119	96	Under 5	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	6	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7 MIDSOMER NORTON .	5,041	5,422	184	Under 5	...	16	1 (?)	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8 MINEHEAD	2,070	2,290	58	Under 5	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9 PORTISHEAD. . . .	2,500	2,600	55	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 RADSTOCK	3,438	3,450	109	Under 5	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11 SHEPTON MALLET .	5,501	Stationary	174	Under 5	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	3	39	5	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12 STREET	3,517	3,842	119	Under 5	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13 TAUNTON.	18,026	...	504	Under 5	...	14	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	135	25	1	...	10	...	...	1	...	16	...	...	...	98	14	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14 WELLINGTON . . .	6,808	7,039	183	Under 5	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	4	3	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 WELLS . . . . .	...	4,700	148	Under 5	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	28	2	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	46	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16 WESTON-SUPER-MARE	15,869	16,800	331	Under 5	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	41	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	5	...	...	...	15	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
17 WIVELISCOMBE . .	1,428	ditto	29	Under 5	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18 YEOVIL	9,648	...	228	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.

TABLE showing, for each District, the number of Births and Deaths, the number of Deaths from Zymotic Diseases, the number of Deaths of Infants, also the Birth Rate, Death Rate, Zymotic Death Rate, and Infantile Rate.

DISTRICT.	No. of Births.	No. of Deaths.	No. of Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.	No. of Deaths of Infants.	Population.	Returned by Medical Officers of Health.				Corrections.			
						Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Zymotic Death Rate.	Infantile Rate.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Zymotic Death Rate.	Infantile Rate.
1 BRIDGWATER .	419	284	4	40	12,600	33·2	18·5	0·39	95·2	...	...	0·31	...
2 BURNHAM. . .	43	42	0	4	2,500	17·2	16·8	0	93·02	...	...	...	...
3 CHARD. . . .	109	81	7	17	4,315	25·2	18·3	2·3	155·9	...	18·7	1·62	...
4 CLEVEDON . .	80	76	5	10	5,600	14·28	13·57	1·07	175	...	...	0·89	125·0
5 FROME	234	157	5	24	9,613	24·34	16·33	0·52	102·56	...	...	...	...
6 GLASTONBURY .	96	60	2	14	4,119	23·30	14·56	0·48	146·8	...	...	...	145·8
7 MIDSOMER NOR- TON }	184	87	5	30	5,422	33·93	16·04	0·0	163·04	...	...	0·92	...
8 MINEHEAD . .	58	43	0	8	2,290	(?)	(?)	(?)	(?)	25·3	18·7	0	137·9
9 PORTISHEAD .	55	41	1	11	2,600	21·1	15·7	0	( ? )	...	...	0·38	200·0
10 RADSTOCK . .	109	46	5	12	3,450	31·7	13·3	1·4	110	31·5	...	...	...
11 SHEPTON MAL- LET }	174	114	18	16	5,501	31·6	20·7	3·27	91·9	...	...	...	...
12 STREET	119	38	2	15	3,842	30·9	9·8	0·5	126·05	...	...	...	...
13 TAUNTON . . .	504	298	13	59	18,449	27·4	16·0	0·8	117	...	...	0·7	...
14 WELLINGTON .	183	118	6	27	7,039	26	16·62	(?)	147	...	16·7	0·85	...
15 WELLS	148	63	2	8	4,700	(?)	13·40	0·42	53·78	31·4	...	...	54·0
16 WESTON-SUPER- MARE }	331	206	15	29	16,800	*20·8	*12·98	*0·94	87·6	19·7	12·2	0·89	...
17 WIVELISCOMBE.	29	22	2	4	1,428	21·008	15·4	1·40	137·93	20·3	...	...	...
18 YEOVIL	228	159	9	30	9,648	23·63	16·48	0·93	131·6	...	...	...	...
Totals Urban Popu- lation }	3,103	1,885	101	358	119,916	25·8	15·7	0·84	115·3	...	...	...	...
England and Wales 1894 }	889,242	498,515	52,771	121,918	38,776,154	29·6	16·6	1·76	137				

* Calculated on 1891 Census population.

URBAN DISTRICTS.		POPULATION.					ACREAGE.		Occupation, etc.	Notifica- tion Act in force.	Isolation Hospital.	Disinfecting Apparatus.	Annual Report printed.	Action under Dairies, Cow- sheds, and Milk shops Order.	Inspector's Report.	L. G. B., Tables A & B	Bye-Laws in Force or recommended.	
		Census 1881.	Census 1891.	Increase.	Decrease.	M.O.H., Estimate 1894.	Registrar General.	M.O.H.										
1	BRIDGWATER	12,007	12,436	429	—	12,600	717	(?)	(?)	Yes	Yes	(?)	Yes	(?)	Yes	A only	New Bye-Laws, scope not mentioned, awaiting sanction of L.G.B.	
2	BURNHAM	1,904	2,360	456	—	2,500	656	627	(?)	Yes	None	(?)	No	(?)	Yes	A only		(?)
3	CHARD	2,411	2,575	164	—	4,315	(?) Area ex- tended in 1892	403	(?)	Yes	None	None	No	Inspected	Yes	A only		(?)
4	CLEVEDON	4,869	5,412	543	—	5,600	3,027	2,987	Health Resort	Yes	None; pro- vision under consideration	(?)	No	Inspected	Summary by M.O.H.	A & B	(?)	
5	FROME	9,377	9,613	236	—	9,613	731	704	(?)	Yes	Yes	Disinfecting room available ? Apparatus	Yes	Inspected	Yes	A & B	(?)	
6	GLASTONBURY	3,719	4,119	400	—	4,119	5,000	4,946	Partly Manu- facturing, partly Agricultural	Yes	None	None	Yes	Registered and inspected	Yes	A & B	New Bye-Laws men- tioned, applying to dairies and slaughter- houses.	
7	MIDSOMER NORTON . .	4,422	5,053	631	—	5,422	3,956	3,922	(?)	Yes	Place for isolation decided upon	(?)	Yes	Inspected	Yes	A & B	New Bye-Laws, drawn up by late Board, under Public Health Act Amendment Act, and now in force.	
8	MINEHEAD	—	2,070	—	—	2,290	—	3,970	(?)	Yes	None	None	No	Not regularly inspected	Yes	A & B	Building Bye-Laws in force.	
9	PORTISHEAD	—	2,500	—	—	2,600	—	976	(?)	Yes	None	(?)	No	Inspected	None	A & B	(?)	
10	RADSTOCK	3,074	3,438	364	—	3,450	1,014	1,000	Coal Mining, Wagon Works, Saw Mills and Farming	Yes	Yes	(?)	No	(?)	No Summary of inspection appended by M.O.H.	A & B	Bye-Laws—? which—said to be in force.	
11	SHEPTON MALLET . . .	5,333	5,500	167	—	Station- ary	3,825	3,564	Breweries, Crape and Silk Weaving, Mineral Water Works, Print- ing and Quarrying	Yes	Yes; at Union Workhouse	Yes	Yes	Inspected frequently	Yes	A & B	L.G.B. Model Bye-Laws in force for cleansing footways, removal of house refuse, nuisances from snow, keeping of animals, common lodg- ing-houses, erection of new buildings & for slaughter-houses.	
12	STREET	2,514	3,535	1,021	—	3,842	2,918	2,600	Principally Shoemaking, Agricultural, and Limestone Quarrying	No; but recom- mended	None	(?)	No	Visited and inspected	Yes	A & B	Apparently for cleansing of cesspools.	
13	TAUNTON	16,614	18,026	1,412	—	18,449	1,203	1,249	(?)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Registered and inspected	Yes	A & B	(?)	
14	WELLINGTON	6,360	6,808	448	—	7,039	5,295	5,732	Woollen Factories, Brick Works, and Agriculture	Yes	None	(?)	Yes	(?)	None	A & B	(?)	
15	WELLS	4,634	4,822	188	—	4,700	720	612	Agricultural, etc.	Yes	Yes	Yes (1893)	Yes	Visited	Yes	A & B	(?)	
16	WESTON-SUPER-MARE	12,884	15,864	2,980	—	16,800	1,911	1,818	(?)	Yes	Yes	(?)	Yes	Inspected	Yes	A & B	(?)	
17	WIVELISCOMBE	1,624	1,428	—	196	1,428	202	182	Agricultural, and dependents, one Brewery	Yes	None	(?)	No	Inspected	None	A & B	(?)	
18	YEOVIL	8,479	9,648	1,169	—	—	654	700	Glove-making, Foundries, Breweries, Tallow Melting	No	Yes	Yes (1892)	Typo- graphed	Inspected	Summary by M.O.H.	A & B	(?)	

